Administration Report

Madras Presidency.

1922-23 & 1923-24

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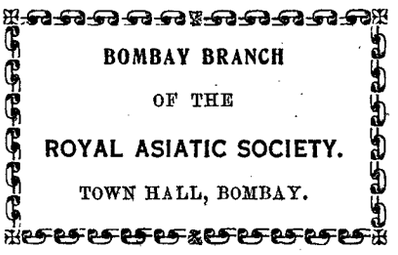

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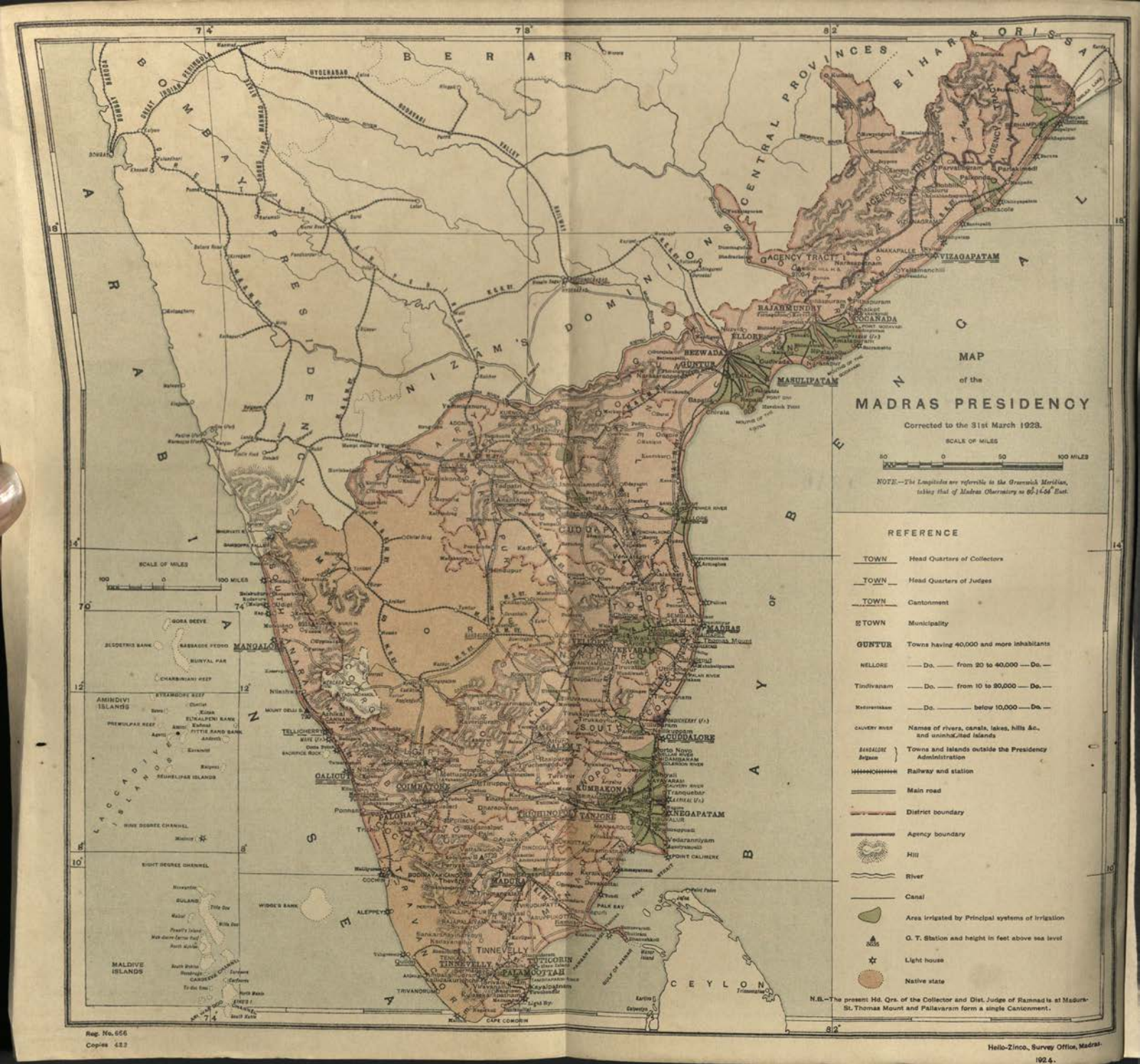

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REPORT

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1922-23

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PREFATORY NOTE

In compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the "General Summary"—deals with the calendar year 1923 and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1922-23 except where specifically stated otherwise.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

1. *General.*—The year was signalized by the visit to the Presidency of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Countess of Reading, who after visiting the cities of Madura and Trichinopoly arrived at Madras on the 8th December. Their Excellencies were received with enthusiasm in spite of strenuous efforts by the non-co-operation faction to induce the people to observe a "hartal." After a stay of four days, during which Their Excellencies attended a long series of public and private functions, among the most noteworthy of which was His Excellency's visit to the Legislative Council, Their Excellencies left Madras on the evening of the 11th December.

2. *Legislative Council.*—During the year the term of the first Legislative Council created under the Government of India Act, 1919, came to an end. The legislative measures passed by the Council before its dissolution included the Madras Survey and Boundaries Act, the Madras University Act, the State Aid to Industries Act and the Madras Stamp (further amendments) Act. An Irrigation Bill intended to define clearly the position of the State in respect of irrigation was introduced in January, but its form was not acceptable in several quarters and leave to introduce it in the Council was not accorded by the House. Two Bills to amend the District Municipalities and the Local Boards Acts were referred to select committees and did not re-emerge during the lifetime of the first Council. The Bill which aroused the greatest feeling both inside and outside the Council was the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill. The object of this Bill, which was to supersede as far as the Madras Presidency was concerned the Government of India Act, XX of 1863, was to ensure the efficient administration of Hindu Religious Endowments in the Presidency. The special features of the Bill were the constitution of a special board, provision for regularly constituted committees to supervise and control religious endowments, and provision for the diversion of surplus funds by applying the doctrine of "Cypres." A large body of public opinion in the Presidency was opposed to the Bill and representations to this effect were made to His Excellency the Governor through the medium of petitions and deputations. The Bill was passed by the Council, but His Excellency the Governor, after discussion with His Excellency the Viceroy, has decided to return the Bill in order that certain points connected with particular clauses may receive their further consideration.

Polling for the new Council took place on the last day of October. Interest was added to the elections by the candidature in many constituencies of anti-Ministerialist Non-Brahmans, Swarajists and Independent candidates of various political hues. Three-cornered contests were not infrequent and in one constituency which returned two

members there were eight candidates. The result of the elections shows that the Ministerial party had the largest number of candidates returned and three Ministers belonging to this party, including two who had served in the previous Council, were appointed by His Excellency the Governor. The polling day was marked by no untoward incidents and an increased proportion of the electorate recorded their votes.

The Finance Committee and the Committee on Public Accounts continued to be the two most important standing committees of the Council. To the number of Advisory Committees, a committee for the depressed classes was added towards the end of the year. The number of resolutions admitted during the year was 182, of which 47 were disposed of. Four hundred and twenty questions were asked. The Council sustained a loss at the end of the year by the resignation of its first President, Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar, who resigned in order to take up an appointment on the India Council in England.

3. *Political.*—The district of Malabar experienced the calm that comes after a storm. Strenuous efforts were made to complete the numerous criminal proceedings entailed by the rebellion. An agitation for the reform of the tenancy laws of the district was started, but did not extend to the rebellion area. A section of the press endeavoured to fan an agitation against "the Police Raj in Malabar" and to resuscitate a demand for a committee of enquiry into the handling of the rebellion.

The beginning of the year found divisions in the ranks of the non-co-operators and eventually two parties were formed, the one consisting of those who adhered to the original programme of Mr. Gandhi, the Congress or No-change party, and the other the Council entry or Swarajist party, consisting of those who, following Mr. C. R. Das, were desirous of sending members to the various legislative bodies. Both parties joined in attempts to celebrate Gandhi day on the 18th July by provocative displays of the "national" flags, but these demonstrations roused little enthusiasm. The Congress party initiated an anti-liquor campaign in Madura which attained considerable dimensions. The volunteers engaged in it eventually resorted to open obstruction and abuse of those who wished to approach the shops. One toddy shop was burnt down. Measures were taken to prevent this and the movement was suspended. In Coimbatore also attempts were made to terrorize those who let out palm trees to contractors for toddy-drawing. The Swarajists were active in the elections, but had little success in obtaining seats in the Madras Legislative Council, though in the elections for the Legislative Assembly they were more successful. A "Labour and Kishan Party" was founded by a communist agitator, but obtained little support from either non-co-operators or other labour bodies. Political agitation against the salt-tax was eagerly taken up by extremists, but met with little success among the people.

The annual meeting of the all-India Congress was held at Cocanada at the end of December as were also meetings of the all-India Khilafat Conference and other political bodies. No disturbances took place. The all-India Congress affirmed its adherence to the "constructive" programme. Many wild speeches were made especially at the Khilafat

and other Muhammadan Conferences. Great stress was laid upon the need for an extensive volunteer organization, and frequent references were made to the example of the Akalis.

Khilafatist activities ceased after the signing of the treaty between Britain and Turkey, which was hailed with rejoicing by the Muhammadan community, but there were sporadic outbursts of a "Jajirat-al-Arab" movement towards the end of the year. The strain of Hindu-Muslim tension was felt in some parts of the Presidency, but no serious disturbances resulted.

After the severe reverses sustained by the rebels in the Agency disturbances at the close of 1922, Srirama Razu and his men remained in hiding for the first three months of 1923, and there were reasons to believe that his prestige had been so much affected that at the end of March the Government decided to reduce the police forces employed in the area. The result however was to encourage the rebels to renewed activity. Their numbers probably increased and on April 17th the Razu and a few followers visited Annavaram in the Gōdāvari district and searched the police station unsuccessfully for arms and ammunition. The police were reinforced; a detachment of the Malabar Special Police which had returned to Malabar, was recalled; and energetic measures were resumed in pursuit of the rebels. The main difficulty throughout was the unwillingness of the local inhabitants to co-operate in any way with the Government or to give any information of the movements of the rebels, of whom they stood in considerable fear. The nature of the country and the constant difficulty of keeping the striking forces up to strength on account of sickness added to the magnitude of the task. The police forces were strengthened from time to time. A special tax under the Police Act was imposed on certain areas for six months, and a number of village officers and others who assisted the rebels or failed to supply information to the police were punished, but no great change in the attitude of the people had been effected by the end of the year. The actual fortunes of war varied. In May the rebels captured and beat a sub-inspector of police on intelligence duty, a deputy tahsildar and several constables and peons. On the night of September 17/18 the police captured Mallaya Dora, the Razu's chief lieutenant. In October a party of rebels made a regular attack on the police post at Gudem. They were repulsed with casualties, but one constable was killed. On several occasions the police all but succeeded in forcing an engagement, and several minor brushes with the rebels occurred in November in which the latter sustained several casualties and one constable was killed. At the end of the year it was decided to reinforce the police by a strong detachment of the Assam Rifles, in the hope of bringing the operations to the earliest possible conclusion.

4. *Financial.*—In spite of the burden of its heavy contribution to the imperial exchequer, the Government of Madras persevered in its policy of leaving nothing undone to make ends meet. The Standing Finance Committee of the Legislative Council which had been appointed to carry out the duties of a Retrenchment Committee submitted its proposals to Government from time to time during the year. Their recommendations were of a dual nature, being in the form both of reduction of expenditure

and of increase of revenues, the grand total under both heads amounting to 98·21 lakhs of rupees. Most of their recommendations were accepted wholly or in part, while the remainder are still under the consideration of Government.

The gross provincial revenue in 1922–23 exceeded that in 1921–22, the increase occurring chiefly under the heads of Stamps, Administration of Justice and Police, and being partly counterbalanced by a decrease under Taxes on Income. The increase under Stamps was due to the raising of the stamp duties and court-fees, though the increase did not come up to budget anticipations. The increase under Administration of Justice was due to the fines levied from the Malabar rebels, while the contributions from Railway Companies for Railway Police for 1921–22 and 1922–23, which were adjusted in the accounts of the latter year, account for the increase under Police. The large decrease under Taxes on Income is nominal and is due to a change in the method of accounting employed in estimating the share of income-tax receipts credited to Provincial Revenues under Devolution Rule 15, as explained in paragraph 220 of part II of this Report. The gross expenditure charged to Revenue showed a decrease chiefly as a result of decreases under Public Health and Civil Works, which were partly counterbalanced by increases under Jails and Convict Settlements and Education. The decrease under Civil Works was due to expenditure being restricted to urgent works on account of financial stringency, while that under Public Health was due chiefly to the grants to local bodies for water-supply and drainage schemes being met from loans and consequently debited to a head outside the Revenue Account. The increase under Jails and Convict Settlements was the result of the Māppilla rebellion and that under Education was due chiefly to larger grants paid to local bodies for elementary education.

The financial situation during the year continued to be acute and progress in all departments was retarded for this reason.

5. *Economic.*—The economic condition of the Presidency during the year was fairly satisfactory on the whole though unusual climatic conditions prevailed. The South-West monsoon broke very late and excessive rains which caused unprecedented floods, especially in the South Kanara district, occurred on the West Coast. There were no famine operations anywhere in the Presidency, although the state of things in the Bellary district caused some anxiety early in the year and at the end of the year there was great anxiety about both Bellary and Anantapur, ending in test works in January. The worst cyclone that had been experienced for many years visited Vizagapatam and part of the Ganjām district in November and caused extensive damage to property and some considerable loss of life. Many miles of the railway were damaged and telegraph and road communications were interrupted. There were also severe floods in the Tinnevelly district at the close of the year. There was a small but appreciable drop in the prices of the staple food-grains in the Presidency as a whole.

6. *Law and Justice.*—There was a decrease in the volume of civil litigation in all courts except Small Cause and Panchayat Courts and on the appellate side of the High Court. This is attributed to the enhanced fees leviable under the Court Fees Act. Depression of trade

was also a contributing factor in some districts. There was no large variation in the number of sessions cases in the Presidency as a whole, but there was a marked increase in the number of murders in the Kurnool and Madura districts. In South Malabar the two Special Judges' Courts which sat to try rebellion cases ceased to work from 18th February, but an Additional Sessions Judge continued to sit till 16th April. There was a slight decline in cases in Magistrates' Courts, which is attributed to action taken under the security sections and to the enforcement of the Criminal Tribes Act against wandering gangs. A committee was appointed in February, in accordance with a resolution of the Legislative Council, to investigate and report on the separation of the judicial and executive functions of Government officers.

7. *Police.*—There was an improvement in the quality of recruits for the City Police and recruitment was easy. Discipline was firmly enforced and the conduct of the force was generally satisfactory. The atmosphere was comparatively tranquil throughout the year, the activities of Non-Co-operators, Khilafatists and labour agitators being less marked. The few strikes that took place were of a minor character. Crime in Madras City was almost stationary. A number of juvenile offenders were dealt with under section 29 of the Children Act, 1920. The control of motor and other traffic was made more effective. In the early part of the year the police force in Malabar was occupied largely with cases consequent upon the Mappilla rebellion. In the Agency tracts the withdrawal of two companies of the Malabar Special Police and the Military units was followed by renewed activity on the part of the rebels, which necessitated the renewal of operations. In Tinnevelly the notorious outlaw Jambulingam and a companion were shot by the police who were endeavouring to arrest them, after three of the police had been wounded in the encounter. The volume of grave crime in the districts decreased by about 8 per cent; and there was a slight improvement in detection. Progress was made in the reclamation of Kallars in the Madura and Rāmnād districts. A force of additional police under the Police Act was imposed on the lawless Reddis of Kadiri taluk in the Anantapur district. A police station with a special staff has been newly opened at Pamudurti. A force of Military Police styled the East Coast Special Police was constituted with a normal strength of 229 of all ranks. A committee was appointed by the Government to enquire into the constitution of the police and to recommend measures for the retrenchment of expenditure. As a consequence of the decision taken by Government on the committee's recommendations to reduce the police force by 2,000 constables, recruitment was stopped for the time being.

8. *Jails.*—The total daily average population of all jails showed a decrease when compared with the previous year owing largely to the decline in commitments of Mappilla prisoners and the release of a large number of such prisoners on the expiry of their sentences. The conduct of prisoners continued to be satisfactory. Recourse was had to whipping in only one case for an assault on an overseer. The Star classification introduced in the Borstal institution and other jails last year proved satisfactory. A large number of Mappilla adolescents were concentrated in the District Jail, Palamcottah, under a modified Borstal régime. The

Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society did useful work during the year, and a Home was started in Madras for the temporary accommodation of helpless and deserving prisoners after their release until employment was found for them. There was a marked improvement in the health of prisoners during the year. The treatment of hookworm on modern lines was carried out in all jails. A "Special Division" for selected prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment was introduced. Advisory Boards for reconsidering the sentences of long-term prisoners who are not habituals were constituted and about two hundred prisoners who were sentenced to periods of over three years and who had completed two-thirds of their sentences were released conditionally on their recommendation. The transportation of prisoners to the Andamans, temporarily re-opened for Mappilla prisoners, was stopped when sufficient accommodation in ordinary jails became available.

9. *Labour.*—The labour situation was quiet throughout the year. There were only 14 strikes most of which were promptly settled. Under the new Emigration Act of 1922 the emigration of unskilled labour to the Straits Settlements and Ceylon was brought under control. Protectors of Emigrants were appointed to each of the ports from which emigration is lawful. The operations of the Labour department for the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes were extended to five new districts and this work is now carried on by the aid of a special staff in nine districts. One result of this extension of activities was a large increase in the number of schools and co-operative societies managed by the department. A considerable extent of land was acquired for providing house sites for the depressed classes. Ameliorative work in the shape of providing pathways, wells and other facilities was carried on. A comprehensive scheme of scholarships for students belonging to the depressed classes was framed and approved by Government and a hostel for the same class was opened at Madras. The work of educating members of criminal tribes was continued in the various settlements and industrial schools.

10. *Trade and ports.*—There was a great expansion of both foreign and coasting trade during the year, the increase under foreign exports being especially marked. This was due to a steady exchange and an abundance of commercial crops. There was a small decline under imports, which is attributed to conservative buying on the part of merchants. The balance of trade moved favourably, there being a greater excess of exports over imports than last year, and there was also an appreciable increase in the trade of the Presidency with the British Empire. There was an increase in customs revenue, owing mainly to the enhanced rate of duty imposed from March 1922. The financial results of the working of the port of Madras showed a slight improvement. Electrical appliances are gradually being provided to replace manual labour for the rapid handling and stacking of cargo. In April a 5½ per cent loan of £330,000 at an issue price of £97½ repayable at par in 1953 was raised in the London market through the Imperial Bank of India. Nearly the whole of the capital so obtained will be devoted to the further development of the port in the form of additional deep water berths and additional equipment. There was a slight decrease in the number of

vessels calling at the port, but there was an increase in the number that actually berthed alongside the quays. While there was a slight decrease in the total tonnage of commodities passing through the port, exports increased by 5·1 per cent. There was an increase in the quantity of cement, glassware, motor cars, paper, piece-goods and mineral oil imported and in the shipment of tanned hides and skins, mineral ores and raw cotton. The decrease in imports was chiefly due to the fall in the quantity of coal, rice and grains, iron and steel, tin sheets, railway material and timber, and Government stores, while there was a decrease in the shipments of onions, bone manure and groundnuts. The trade of the minor ports was less than in the previous year.

11. *Co-operation.*—Co-operative societies continued to increase in number and there was an increase in the number of members, in the amount both of share and working capital available, and in the strength of reserve funds. The departmental inspectorate staff was divided into two branches, one attending only to the audit of societies and the other to general organization, supervision and administration. Statutory rules were framed providing that all societies which accept deposits and loans shall provide a fluid resource and that all societies shall prepare certain annual statements in forms prescribed by the Registrar. The Madras Central Urban Bank, most of the Central Banks and a large number of primary societies reduced their rates of interest during the year. District Central Banks developed their own finance from local sources and were consequently dependent to a less extent on loans from the Provincial Bank. The policy of bringing more and more primary societies under non-official supervision was continued. During the year a great deal of attention was given to the reconstitution of societies which were working badly, to the stimulation of activity in societies which were becoming moribund and to the elimination of societies which could not be revived or re-organized.

12. *Agriculture.*—Great difficulty was found in filling the classes at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, as a result of making a Secondary School-Leaving Certificate a necessary qualification for the Certificate course and of stopping the grant of stipends to those taking the Degree course. Sixteen out of thirty-five students obtained the degree of B.Sc.Ag. of the Madras University. The Agricultural Middle School at Taliparamba is proving a success. Research work on sugarcane, paddy, cotton, dry-grains, coconuts, fruit culture, green manures and miscellaneous crops was carried out at the Central Farm at Coimbatore and the different agricultural stations. The new paddy breeding station at Aduturai in the Tanjore district was carried on with success. Over 68 tons of selected strains of paddy seed, sufficient to plant 8,400 acres of wet land, were distributed during the year. The experiments in the cross-breeding of live-stock which had been carried out in co-operation with the military at Bangalore were transferred to Coimbatore and satisfactory progress was made with the cross-bred herd. A pure bred Ongole herd is being raised on the Ongole cattle-farm at Chintaladevi. Demonstration work was again a special feature of the work of the Department of Agriculture. Laboratory experiments and field trials were carried out with several fertilizers and test experiments on the storage of

farm-yard manure were begun on four of the Government farms. The Madras Pest Act was enforced for the control of the boll-worm and stem-weevil of cotton, in the palmyra tracts of the Northern Circars, and also to control a caterpillar coconut-pest in South Kanara.

13. *Forests.*—The policy of abandoning isolated reserves and forest lands which do not justify the expenditure incurred or which are needed for cultivation was continued. With the decline of the non-co-operation movement lawlessness greatly decreased. In such of the important timber forests as are subject to damage from fire, the system of early burning by which forests are inoculated against the serious attacks of fire by the firing of the grass they contain immediately it is dry enough to burn, was largely substituted for the orthodox but much more costly system of prevention. Considerable progress has been made with the system of handing over to panchayats the management of the smaller reserves which are chiefly valuable for the supply of grazing to the local cattle. In many cases panchayats have agreed to raise the grazing fees and to limit the grazing to a definite number of cattle. A distinct advance was made during the year in systematic operations for the establishment of young crops of various species, chiefly in the teak forests of Mount Stuart and Wynaad. The Russellkonda Saw Mill completed its first year of working. The financial results were disappointing, chiefly owing to the fact that the Forest Department had to find out by experience what quality of timber was best suited to the requirements of the Mill. The working of the Chenat Nair exploitation division was handicapped by the refusal of the Kolar Gold Field to accept any but well-known timbers. Samples of the less known timbers were sent to the Trichur Mills to be made up into tea and rubber chests, etc., and timber in commercial quantity is shortly to be sawn up in these mills to test the market. Two forest committees consisting of the local District Forest Officers, local Members of the Legislative Council and other influential gentlemen were formed in Kurnool and Chittoor under the presidency of the Conservators concerned to investigate certain alleged grievances.

14. *Fisheries.*—The Department of Fisheries was in the charge of an Indian Director since August. The Inland Fisheries section was worked at a profit for the fishery year which ended on 30th June. Tank and river stocking operations were continued and also experiments to determine the rate of growth of certain freshwater fish. The Pearl and Chank Fishery section yielded a net revenue of Rs. 38,386. The Zoological supply section made good progress in its work of supplying specimens to educational institutions. A large quantity of refined fish oil was produced at the Tanur Experimental Station, and part of the output was supplied to the Controller of Contracts, Simla. The manufacture and sale of cured fish and fishmeal showed an advance over previous years. There was a loss of Rs. 100-7-11 on the working of the Government cannery at Chaliyam. The department continued its work for the social and economic improvement of the fisher community on the West Coast, and there was an increase in the number of pupils attending its schools. A collection of exhibits has been made for the British Empire Exhibition.

15. *Industries.*—The State Aid to Industries Act came into force early in the year, and the rules under this Act were published in March. No loans were given under these rules pending the formation of the Statutory Board to be created under this Act, but inquiries in regard to the applications for aid have been instituted. The reports of a Committee on Technical and Industrial Education and of a Committee on the Leather Industry are both under the consideration of Government. The Bureau of Commercial and Industrial Information continued to deal with a large number of inquiries from the public and from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence. The Industrial Chemist continued his examination of the conditions under which the retting of coconut husks takes place and also carried out an investigation into the possibility of manufacturing malted foods in this Presidency. There was a reduction in the demand for the products of the Kerala Soap Institute due to the competition of spurious imitations of some of its soaps. A number of experiments in the manufacture of inks were made in the Industrial Institute, Washermanpet. The Fruit Preserving Institute at Coonoor, the Government Glue Factory and the Pallapalaiyam Sugarcane Factory were also working during the year. Ten peripatetic weaving parties toured the Presidency and the activities of the Textile Institute at Madras were extended. Some success was attained in the extension of sericulture in several new centres. New Industrial Workshops were opened at the beginning of the year and an increased number of jobs were executed. There was an increase in the number of boring operations conducted. The Madras Trades School continued to be held in a rented building, but the foundation stone of a permanent Trades School was laid by His Excellency the Governor. The School of Arts and Crafts and the Leather Trades Institute continued to be active. The usual number of State scholarships was awarded.

16. *Public Works.*—The year was marked by the continuance of the policy of retrenchment and a large reduction in the *personnel* of the Public Works Department. The programme of works was however larger than in the previous year. The new Civil Hospital at Vizagapatam, quarters for the Special Police at Malabar, the St. George's Homes at Keti, the extensions to the chemical wing in the Presidency College, as well as the Government Secondary and Training School for Mistresses, Triplicane, were completed. All works on the new Rayapuram Hospital buildings with some minor exceptions were also completed. There were signs that the use of electricity is becoming more popular. A model form of conditions for the supply of electrical energy to be used by licensees was issued by Government. The Toludur irrigation project in the South Arcot district was practically completed and was opened by His Excellency the Governor in September. A Chief Engineer was placed on special duty in connexion with the Cauvery and Kistna reservoir projects.

17. *Local Self-Government.*—To relieve the various local bodies of the financial difficulties under which they laboured, the Government allotted a sum of Rs. 17 lakhs to be expended in bearing the cost of the cadre of District Board Engineers, the pay of medical officers in charge of taluk headquarter hospitals, and in providing compassionate grants to a few

boards to enable them to square their accounts. At the same time the boards were informed that, before having any claim on Provincial revenues, they must raise the cess to the maximum rates allowed by the Act. The system of payment of trunk road and other grants, as well as the cess, was revised so as to substitute payment during the course of the year for post payment. This will have an important and beneficial effect upon the "ways and means" position of the boards. The accounts were simplified to empower local boards to keep their own accounts and to relieve the Treasury Deputy Collectors of this duty. One result of this system will be to prevent over-drawing, as each board will have its own "banking account." During the previous two years when the boards were exercising extensive new powers and the situation had to be carefully watched, the Presidents of District Boards were, as a rule, nominated by Government. It was decided, however, during the year that in future Boards would be left free to elect their own Presidents, save in special circumstances where Government, for reasons published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, found it necessary to nominate a president.

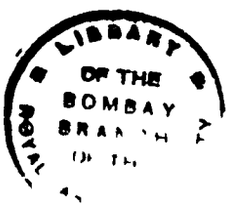
18. *Public Health.*—The outstanding feature of the administration of the Public Health Department was the complete reorganization of the department, including the formation of a separate health staff for each district. A separate cadre for Health Officers was created and the pay of Health Inspectors was revised. The recorded birth rate showed an increase over that of previous years. The death rate showed a slight increase both in its total and under every head of death causation except "cholera" and "fevers." The increase in the death rate from plague was marked. Infantile mortality also showed an increase. In view of the imperfect state of registration these recorded variations cannot be considered as accurate. Relapsing fever was prevalent during the year in sixteen districts of the Presidency. The disease was very largely confined to the agricultural classes, the worst affected being those of South Arcot. The epidemic was brought under control by the preventive measures taken both by Government and by local bodies.

19. *Medical.*—The policy laid down by Government at the end of 1921, of bringing medical aid in touch with the rural population by making medical officers travel to outlying stations in regular rotation on specific days, was not followed in its entirety by many local bodies, though the system had already shown signs of beneficial effects in places where it had been put into operation. Local Bodies were not in all cases able to provide funds for the extension and improvement of medical relief. The reorganization of the nursing service proceeded slowly as qualified nurses were not forthcoming. The outstanding feature of the year in regard to medical education was the opening of a Medical College at Vizagapatam and a Medical School for Women at Madras. Owing to the reduction of the cadre Government were unable to find employment for Military Medical pupils who passed in October 1923 and Indian Military Medical pupils who passed in April and October 1923. The scheme of appointing Honorary Physicians and Honorary Surgeons for the Presidency State Hospitals was revived. A revised Post Graduate Course for Civil Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons was introduced in lieu of promotion examinations.

20. *Education.*—The re-organization of the inspecting agency, superior as well as subordinate, foreshadowed in the last report was completed during the year, and each district in the Presidency, with the exception of the Nilgiris, was placed in charge of a District Educational Officer. The Madras University Act (No. VII of 1923 received the assent of His Excellency the Governor. The object of this Act is to establish a teaching and residential university in the territory within a radius of ten miles from Fort St. George, to organize and develop the teaching resources that already exist in that area and to promote co-operation between the colleges in Madras and develop intercollegiate activities and amenities. At the same time the University continues to exercise its former jurisdiction over the affiliated colleges in the mufassal. The constitution of the University was re-modelled mainly on the lines of the Calcutta University Commission's report. The chief authorities of the University are now the Senate, the Syndicate, the Academic Council and the Council of Affiliated Colleges. In each district, Secondary Education Boards were formed with advisory functions composed partly of nominated members and partly of members elected by local bodies and private school teachers. A scheme for the institution of a Provident Fund for teachers in aided schools is being introduced. Compulsory elementary education was introduced in seven municipalities during the year. Certain powers of supervision over schools within their jurisdiction were granted to Village Panchayats. In the field of experiment in vocational education progress was made, a number of new subjects ranging over a wide area being introduced. The Lady Willingdon Training College for Mistresses was opened early in the year, in addition to a new Mission Training College. It was decided that the Text-Book Committee should in future contain representatives of the District Secondary Education Boards. A committee was constituted to undertake the compilation of an authoritative list of scientific terms in the chief vernaculars of the Presidency.

PART II

THE REPORT



CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

5. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1922–23)

9. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lord Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., continued to hold office throughout the year. The Executive Council suffered a serious loss by the resignation, in February 1923, of the Hon'ble Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, *Kt.*, and his death which followed soon. His place as Law Member of Council was taken by the Hon'ble Mr. C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, C.I.E. There were no changes in the Ministry.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOURS

10. Leaving Ootacamund on the 18th May 1922, His Excellency accompanied by Her Excellency visited Olavakkot the next day, where they witnessed the elephant sale. From there they went into the jungle to see something of the development of the Chennat Nair forest. Their Excellencies then proceeded to the Travancore High Range, where they inspected the planting district, and returned to Ootacamund on the 23rd. The next tour was to Anantapur, Kurnool, Guntūr and Kistna districts. On the way from Ootacamund, Their Excellencies halted for the 30th June at Coimbatore to lay the foundation stone of the new buildings of the Agricultural College and to attend the prize distribution at the Forest College. Her Excellency laid the foundation stone of the new Home of the Maternity and Child Welfare Association. Their Excellencies arrived at Penukonda on the 2nd July via Bangalore where they stopped the previous day. His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the Students' hostel of the Board High School, Penukonda. Besides receiving addresses from local bodies and deputations and visiting several institutions, Their Excellencies attended several functions, the most important of which were the laying of the foundation stone of the maternity ward of Hampiah's dispensary at Guntakal, the installation of the Nawab of Banganapalle and the inspection of the punitive police at Gurazala. Their Excellencies returned to Ootacamund on the 13th July. In August Their Excellencies visited the Chettinad on the 3rd and 4th, where they received several addresses, opened the Gosha ward attached to the Church of Sweden Mission Hospital at Tiruppattūr given by the Zamindar of Sivaganga and laid the foundation stone of a hospital at Kanadukathan. On the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy His Excellency visited Simla in September 1922 and returned to Ootacamund on the 19th. On the 19th November Their Excellencies left Madras for a tour in the Vizagapatam and Ganjām districts. En route they halted at Venkatagiri where the new building of the Queen-Empress Mary Gosha Hospital was

opened and also at Tuni where the buildings for the High School and the Gosha Hospital were opened. Their Excellencies arrived at Waltair and then visited Vizagapatam, Bobbili, Parlākimedi, Berhampur, Russellkonda, Chatrapur and Rambha. While at Vizagapatam His Excellency opened the conference convened for the purpose of considering the question of the establishment of a Telugu University. He also inspected the site of the projected harbour. Her Excellency opened the new buildings for the Caste Girls' School at Bobbili and for the Raja's Oriya Girls' School at Parlākimedi, where His Excellency also presented to the Raja the sanad conferring the hereditary title of "Raja." Their Excellencies received addresses from local bodies and deputations and inspected several institutions of interest. Their Excellencies returned to Madras on the 6th December. On the 8th December His Excellency visited Aduturai in the Tanjore district and opened the Paddy Breeding Station there. On the 22nd February 1923, His Excellency visited Tinnevelly to open the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendur railway and opportunity was taken of the visit to open the Peace and Victory wards of the Vannarpet Women and Children's Hospital and to lay the foundation stone of the new Palamcottah Municipal office.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES

TRAVANCORE STATE

(M.E. 1097—1921-22 A.D.)

[*Report on the administration of the Travancore State for the year 1097 M.E.—1921-22 A.D.*]

[The Maharaja, His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manne Sultan Maharaja Raja Ramaraja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., was born on the 25th September 1857 and has been Maharaja since 19th August 1885. There is an heir-apparent. The area of the State is 7,625 square miles and the population in 1921 was 4,006,062]

General

11. In September 1921 His Highness Shrimant Pant Sahib of Bhor visited His Highness the Maharaja in Travancore. On 13th January 1922 His Highness the Maharaja was present in Madras on the occasion of the reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales with whom he later had an interview. His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin paid a visit to Travancore State at the invitation of the Maharaja in February 1922. On 22nd March 1922 the Junior Rani gave birth to a second son Prince Utratam Tirunal.

Revenue and finance

12. The year opened with a credit balance of Rs. 64,64,394. The total revenue realized from all sources during the year amounted to Rs. 2,00,66,830: which represents an excess of Rs. 5,96,700 over the sum obtained in 1096. There was an increase under all the principal heads of revenue except Land Revenue, Excise and Registration. The fall in Land Revenue was caused in part by a decreased demand for land owing to the stringency of the money market and in part to the grant of season remissions. The decrease in Excise Revenue which amounted to Rs. 2,22,595 during the year was due to the reduced consumption of liquor; the loss was to some extent compensated by an increased demand for tobacco. The decrease in the revenue realized from Registration, which is a feature common to most parts of the Presidency during the year, was doubtless the result of the tightness of the money market.

Income-tax

13. Income-tax, which was imposed for the first time during the year, realized a sum of Rs. 4,17,983. Ordinary expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 2,01,14,934 and a further sum of Rs. 9,048 was expended on items not charged to Revenue. Expenditure therefore exceeded Revenue during the year by Rs. 57,152 leaving a closing balance of Rs. 64,07,242:

The excess in expenditure over that of the previous year amounted to Rs. 4¾ lakhs. The bulk of the increase was incurred on account of charges for Education (Rs. 2¼ lakhs), Land Revenue (Rs. 1¼ lakhs) and other expenditure (Rs. 1 lakh).

Protection and legislation

Legislative Council

14. Two ordinary meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year and ten regulations were passed. His Highness the Maharaja passed two regulations direct. The constitution of the Legislative Council was to some extent modified by Regulation II of 1097 by which the Council was strengthened numerically and was given the right of voting on the budget. The franchise was at the same time considerably broadened and extended to women who were also given the right of standing for election to the Council.

Police

The sanctioned strength of the force was 2,016 against 2,182 in 1096; the actual strength at the close of the year was 2,055.

Grave crimes

The total number of cognizable cases was 2,937 against 3,354 in 1096. The number of grave crimes reported increased from 1,519 in 1096 to 1,570 in 1097; there were, however, fewer cases of murder and robbery in the latter year.

Jails

A riot occurred amongst the students of the college at Trivandrum but order was quickly restored by the police. The average jail strength of convicted prisoners in the Central Prison was 413 against 406 in the previous year. The total strength during the year was 1,370 and the closing strength 474 against 428 in 1096.

Criminal justice

The number of prisoners confined in lockups was 3,754 against 3,625 in 1096. The number of courts that exercised criminal jurisdiction was seventy-nine, the same as in 1096. The number of offences reported rose from 21,298 to 22,976; but offences under the Penal Code decreased slightly from 13,000 in 1096 to 12,654 in the previous year. The number of juvenile accused increased from 483 to 717; the number actually brought to trial was 43 against 41 while only 8 were actually convicted as against 16 last year. Theft was, as usual, the crime of which juveniles were mostly convicted. In spite of the increase in the number of cases filed before Magistrates the number of arrears fell from 1,305 to 1,161. The number of persons committed to the Sessions rose from 403 to 413. The Sessions Courts also had fewer arrears this year than last, although more cases were tried.

Civil justice

There was a general increase in the number of appeals presented to all appellate courts. There was a decrease in the number of original suits filed during the year and an increase in the number of appeals. The number of suits instituted in Village Panchayat Courts was 7,189 during the year against 5,747 last year; in Munsifs' Courts the number of institutions fell from 60,533 to 57,361 and in District Courts from 890 to 833. The average duration of suits increased in Village Panchayat Courts and in District Courts but fell slightly in Munsifs' Courts.

Registration

The total number of documents presented for registration fell from 305,037 in 1096 to 284,316; the aggregate value of the transactions was Rs. 9,49,75,179 as against Rs. 9,95,91,698 last year.

Production and distribution

Agriculture

15. The average rainfall was 92·44 inches, an increase of 3·15 inches over that of last year. The season was on the whole favourable. Wages and prices remained steady. Research work in Agricultural Chemistry and Entomology was continued and practical measures were taken to check the spread of the coconut palm pest known as *Nephantis Serinopa*. Progress was also made in experimental work on the cultivation of paddy, coconut and other crops.

Veterinary

There was a mild attack of foot and mouth disease and a few cases of rinderpest and anthrax, but apart from these the health of cattle during the year was good.

Co-operative societies

One hundred and two new societies were registered during the year. Only Rs. 1,86,769 were collected out of a total amount of Rs. 3,43,930 due on account of principal. There was also an outstanding balance of Rs. 28,154 on account of interest at the end of the year. Apart from this the work of the year was satisfactory.

Factories

One hundred and forty-six factories were working in the State at the end of 1097 as against 143 in 1096. In the majority of the factories black tea was manufactured.

Trade

Amongst other manufactures were bricks, rubber, tiles, coir mats and cotton spinning and weaving. The value of external trade

was Rs. 12,34,65,157 against Rs. 11,40,76,495 in 1096. The value of exports amounted to Rs. 7,40,89,586 and that of imports to Rs. 4,93,75,571. The bulk of the trade was with British India. One hundred and twenty-nine Marine steamers called at the ports as compared with 96 in 1096.

16. The birth and death rates were 17·58 and 11·46 per mille as against **Public health** 21·5 and 14·1 in 1096. There was an almost complete absence of epidemics during the year. 233,727 people were vaccinated against 230,562 in 1096. Twenty-eight hospitals and 32 dispensaries were maintained, the number Hospitals of in-patients being 19,947 against 18,348 last year and the number of out-patients 960,291 compared with 921,822.

17. The total number of recognized institutions increased from 3,112 to **Education** 3,197 while the number of partially recognized schools fell from 111 to 31. There were 974 private schools against 933 similar schools in 1096. The total number of pupils under instruction in recognized schools was 402,181 compared with 392,913 in 1096.

COCHIN STATE

(M.E. 1097—16TH AUGUST 1921 TO 15TH AUGUST 1922)

[*Report on the administration of the Cochin State for the year 1097 M.E.*]

[His Highness Maharaja Sri Sir Rama Varma, G.C.I.E., was born on 6th October 1858 and became Maharaja on the abdication of his uncle on 7th December 1914. The heir-apparent, Rama Varma, was born on 30th December 1861. The State has an area of 1,417¾ square miles and a population of 979,080. It pays an annual subsidy of Rs. 2,00,000]

18. His Highness the Maharaja was present at the reception of His **General** Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in Madras on 13th January 1922. On the following day His Highness had an interview with His Royal Highness. In February His Highness visited Trivandrum as the guest of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore. Vice-Admiral Sir Hugh Tothill, Commander-in-Chief of the East Indies Squadron, visited Cochin in November 1921 and the Honourable Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., Senior Member of the Executive Council of His Excellency the Governor of Madras paid a visit to the State in July 1922.

19. The total revenue realized during the year was Rs. 55,46,463 and **Revenue and finance** the total expenditure Rs. 55,28,759—there being a surplus of Rs. 17,704 of revenue over expenditure. In 1096 revenue amounted to Rs. 60,22,543 and expenditure to Rs. 60,65,640. A large decrease occurred in the revenue derived from the Railway during the year—only Rs. 1,65,737 being realized as compared with Rs. 10,17,567 in 1096. Customs showed an increase of Rs. 4.35,397 which was due to the higher amount paid by the British Government under the Interportal Trade Convention. There were large decreases in the amounts spent on Railways (Rs. 7,28,701) and Public Works (Rs. 3,24,567). The balance at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 34,46,512, of which Rs. 17,73,047 was cash in the Treasuries and Banks and Rs. 16,73,465 was covered by securities.

20. Thirteen Regulations were passed during the year and two **Protection and legislation** Proclamations were issued. The police force consisted of 89 officers and 551 men, the ratio of police to population being 1 : 1,605·05 as compared with 1 : 1,726·77 in the preceding year. The total number of cases for investigation by the police rose from 673 in 1096 to 745 of which 665 were Police cognizable. The number of grave crimes increased from 377 to 451 of Criminal which 285 were detected. The Chief Court, two Sessions Courts, one justice District Magistrate and eight Subordinate magistrates exercised jurisdiction during the year. There were 2,396 cases for trial in the Magistrates Courts and of this number 2,264 were disposed of. The number of cases for disposal during the year was less by 17 than last year. In the Sessions Courts there were 39 cases for trial as against 33 in 1096 ; 36 cases

were disposed of. The number of appeals preferred to each of the Appellate Courts was less than in last year. The average daily number of convicts in the Central Jail during the year was 120·61 as against 140·38 in 1096. Nine Munsifs, two District Judges and twenty-five village panchayats exercised original civil jurisdiction during the year and the Chief Court and the two District Courts exercised appellate jurisdiction. The number of suits instituted fell from 16,749 to 16,512 and the number of appeals from 870 to 855. The number of documents registered was 52,943 as against 56,407 last year. Eight joint stock companies were newly registered during the year as against 36 in 1096.

Jails
Civil justice
Registration

Production and distribution

21. There was an increase of 542 acres in the extent of occupied land, the total occupied area being 503,874 acres. The extent under cultivation, however, fell from 17,093 to 16,596 acres, the decrease being caused by blocks of land which were left uncultivated for storing water for irrigation purposes. The demand under Land Revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 12,22,516 of which Rs. 12,19,764 were collected, the percentage of collection to demand being 99·9. The expenditure under Land Revenue increased from Rs. 2,19,433 to Rs. 2,38,013, the increase being due to a revision of the pay of the establishment and to the employment of an additional staff. Several improvements were made to the Government Central Farm at Ollukara and further experiments in the cultivation of paddy and coconuts were carried out; the paddy cultivation, however, proved a failure owing to the vicissitudes of the season. Ten co-operative societies were registered during the year and the registration of eight societies was cancelled. The total number of societies at the end of the year was 98. The number of members increased from 10,774 to 12,175 and Rs. 1,25,501 were collected in subscription as against Rs. 1,12,078 last year. The total amount for collection at the beginning of the year was Rs. 11,57,635 of which Rs. 6,44,633 were paid. The extent of reserved forest at the end of the year was a little over 593 square miles. Receipts decreased from Rs. 3,79,617 to Rs. 3,69,000 and expenditure increased from Rs. 1,77,442 to Rs. 2,03,812. The South Indian Railway continued to work the State Railway. The net earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 1,12,205 representing a return of 1·54 per cent on the Capital outlay of Rs. 72,75,887. The total amount expended by the Public Works Department during the year was Rs. 6,23,689 as compared with Rs. 9,67,466 last year.

Agriculture
Co-operative societies
Forests
Railway
Public Works

Medical

22. Public health during the year was generally good. The number of births decreased from 15,205 to 14,290 or 14·60 per mille of the population. The total number of deaths was also less being 9,221 (9·42 per mille) as compared with 9,977 last year. The number of medical institutions was 33 as in last year. The total number of patients treated fell from 313,267 in 1096 to 310,442. 42,004 people were vaccinated as compared with 39,572; 75·46 per cent of the vaccinations were successful.

Vital statistics
Medical institutions
Vaccination

Education

23. The number of Government schools fell from 171 to 167 and that of aided schools from 273 to 269. The pupils in State schools increased from 39,006 to 39,085 and those in aided schools from 45,927 to 48,313. The total number of pupils receiving instruction including those taught in unaided schools was 98,835 as against 97,370 last year. Eight hundred and ninety-eight candidates appeared for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination and 325 passed.

PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[Report on the administration of Pudukkōttai for fasli 1332]

[The Raja, His Highness Sri Brihadamba Das Raja Sir Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman Bahadur, G.C.I.E., is a Kallar by caste and is 47 years of age. The population of the State, according to the census of 1921, is 426,813. The Raja pays no tribute and maintains a military force of 19 cavalry and 110 infantry. The Collector of Trichinopoly was ex-officio Political Agent and the office of Superintendent was held by a member of the Indian Civil Service]

General and political

24. His Highness the Raja stayed in Europe with his consort and his son throughout the year. He decided to reside permanently out of India and arranged, in consultation with the Government, that the administration of the State should be carried on by a Regent assisted by a Diwan. This arrangement was made effective from October 23, 1922, and the State Council was abolished on that date. The Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council continued to exist. Of the thirty members who constitute the former body, twenty-five are elected by the people and five are nominated by the Darbar. It met twice during the year. The Legislative Council consists of four official and six non-official members, of whom four are elected by the Representative Assembly and the remaining two are nominated by the Darbar.

Revenue and finance

25. The actual receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 23·17 lakhs which was Rs. 1·78 lakhs more than the actual receipts for the previous year. The increase is mainly due to the sale of a State building in the town, to the credit of His Highness's marriage fund to the State and to profit on the sale of Government securities. Expenditure increased from Rs. 24·53 lakhs in 1921–22 to Rs. 41·55 lakhs in the year under review. The increase was mainly due to a payment of Rs. 20 lakhs to His Highness under the orders of Government. There were savings under all other heads except Land Revenue, Registration, Education, Political and other expenditure.

Production and distribution

26. The agricultural year was fair on the whole. The rainfall at the beginning was encouraging, but it was deficient at the season for transplantation. There was an unusually large rainfall at harvest time which did some damage to the minor crops. There was an appreciable fall in the prices of all food-grains except rice. The condition of the labouring classes was good. The condition of cattle was good; there were no epidemics and pasture and fodder were sufficient. The number of co-operative societies in the State increased from 45 to 61 during the year. Much help was given to the movement by non-official workers and the people are beginning to take an interest in it. Economic planting is gaining favour with the ryots and the area so planted is increasing in many of the villages. A motor service was opened between Pudukkōttai, Trichinopoly, Tanjore and the Chettinad.

Public works

Expenditure under the head of public works decreased from Rs. 6·86 lakhs in 1921–22 to Rs. 5·03 lakhs in 1922–23. Of this, Rs. 1·01 lakhs were spent on irrigation, half of this sum being expenditure on minor irrigation. The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department was 432 miles of which 347 miles of road were either gravelled or metalled.

Protection and legislation

27. The Legislative Advisory Council considered several amending regulations in the laws relating to Stamps, Police and Civil Procedure and other measures. It also considered the State Grants Regulation. A regulation to establish a Legislative Council for the State was drafted.

Police

At the end of the year the police force was short of its sanctioned strength (227) by four constables. The number of cases of crime reported rose from 1,697 to 2,084 in the year. Of the 568 cases under the Indian Penal Code only 22 per cent were detected as against 24 per cent in the previous year. On the other hand the value of property recovered rose from 14 per cent to 19 per cent of the value of the property stolen. Detection in cases of grave crime was poor. Of 130 cases of burglary only 14 were

Criminal justice

detected. The conduct of the force was on the whole satisfactory. The number of cases that came up for inquiry or trial before Magistrates rose from 5,590 to 7,367 in the year. Of these, 2,083 related to offences under the Indian Penal Code which is less than the figure for the previous year (2,342). The increase in the number of offences under other laws is due to a larger number of prosecutions under Forest and Police regulations. The average duration of cases tried in Magistrates' Courts was 9·13 days as against 11·16 in the previous year and the percentage of disposal rose from 90·10 to 92·45.

Civil justice

In the Civil Courts the total number of suits instituted was 10,486 as against 10,742 in the previous year. Thus for the State, as a whole, one suit was instituted for every 41 persons. The time taken in the disposal of regular suits rose from 245 days to 292 days, and in the disposal of small cause suits from 112 days to 139 days. Of the 388 regular appeals, 211 were heard and decided. The average duration of such appeals, many of which were long-standing, increased from 299 to 437 days. Of the 97 appeals for trial in the second appellate court 89 were heard and judgment was passed in 75. There was no change in the number of prisons. The average daily population of the Central Jail was 91·76 as compared with 98·90 in the preceding year. The total number of prisoners in the eight sub-jails admitted during the year varied from 2 to 127. The health of the prisoners was good. The Jail School continued to work satisfactorily.

Vital statistics and medical services

28. The health of the public was fair throughout the fasli. The death-rate rose from 15·14 per mille to 17·74 per mille. Deaths from small-pox increased from 64 in 1921–22 to 300 in 1922–23. The birth-rate rose from 19·94 per mille to 20·84 per mille. Deaths of children under six years of age represented about 30 per cent of the total deaths, and infantile deaths about 18 per cent. There was no appreciable increase in the number of persons availing themselves of the services of trained midwives. The daily average of patients treated in all the medical institutions of the State fell, by 45, to 918. There was also a slight fall in the number of patients attending the Ayurvedic Dispensary. The number of vaccinations fell from 15,455 to 14,415. Though vaccination is compulsory in the State, the result of the year's work was not satisfactory owing to the indifference both of the officers responsible and the public.

Education

29. The number of educational institutions in the State rose from 530 to 564 in the year under report. The number of pupils in the State and aided schools similarly rose from 22,844 boys and 2,748 girls to 23,863 boys and 3,161 girls ; including pupils in private schools the total number of children receiving education rose from 27,621 to 29,529. There was one school for every 757 inhabitants. The percentage of both boys and girls at school to the total population of school-going age rose from 41·56 in 1921–22 to 43·88 in the year under review. The net expenditure on education was Rs. 1·81 lakhs as against Rs. 1·64 lakhs in 1921–22. The State Training School for Teachers, the Oriental College and the Weaving School continued to work satisfactorily. Past pupils of the latter institution have formed themselves into a union on a co-operative basis and are earning a living. The Vernacular Agricultural School had eight students on its roll and there were three trained teachers teaching agriculture in rural schools. The number of students in the college on the last day of the year was 560, or 4 less than the corresponding figure in 1921–22. Of the 22 students who appeared for the Intermediate examination, 13 were wholly or partially successful, but of the 63 who appeared for the Secondary School-leaving Certificate examinations, only 11 were declared eligible for a University course.

BANGANAPALLE STATE

[Administration Report of the Banganapalle State for the official year 1922–23]

[The Nawab of Banganapalle, Mir Fazl Ali Khan Bahadur, succeeded his father as ruler of the State in January 1922. He maintains no army and pays no tribute. The area of the State is 256·10 square miles and its population 36,646]

General

30. On the 6th July 1922, His Excellency Lord Willingdon, Governor of Madras, visited Banganapalle and installed the Nawab on the Masnad of the State. His Excellency was accompanied by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon.

Finance

31. The total revenue, exclusive of debt heads, increased from Rs. 3,70,417 to Rs. 3,99,825. Expenditure, on the other hand, fell to Rs. 3,38,228 against Rs. 3,54,253 in 1921–22. Land Revenue fell from Rs. 2,51,308 to Rs. 2,07,576 but Abkāri and Opium showed a substantial increase (Rs. 1,21,900 against Rs. 65,294 last year). The receipts from Stamps and Registration were also slightly in excess of those of last year. A saving was effected under almost all heads of expenditure.

Protection

Crime

Jails

Registration

32. Ninety-eight crimes were registered during the year compared with 84 in the previous year. Eighty-two persons were sent for trial and 45 were convicted, the percentage of the number of accused convicted to the total number being 54·87. The total jail population during the year was 30. Eight hundred and two documents of an aggregate value of Rs. 3,00,655 were registered during the year as compared with 613 of a value of Rs. 2,49,766 last year.

Production and distribution

Cattle

Forest

33. There was a total failure of dry crops in the villages in the west of the State. Fodder was also scarce owing to the lack of rain, but there was little disease amongst cattle. Some of the forests which cover more than 39 per cent of the whole area of the State were completely reserved during the year, and steps were taken to preserve the existing timber and to plant more trees. The gross revenue derived from the forest during the year amounted to Rs. 12,412 which is an increase of Rs. 848 over the sum realized last year.

Medical

Vital statistics

Vaccination

34. The average daily number of out-patients treated in the hospital during the year was 84·08 compared with 75·34 last year. The average number of in-patients fell from 7·72 to 6·00. One major and 177 minor operations were performed. There were 1,081 births in the State during the year as compared with 1,014 last year. The number of deaths also rose from 615 to 686 the increase being due to the prevalence of smallpox in the State. One thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven people were vaccinated as against 1,795; unfortunately the percentage of unsuccessful cases rose from 10·50 to 20·10.

Education

35. There was an increase both in the number of boys and girls who attended schools during the year. The total number under instruction in State and aided schools was 1,698 against 1,634, last year—an increase of 64. The result of the annual examinations was satisfactory.

SĀNDŪR STATE

[Administration Report of the Sāndūr State for the official year 1922–23]

[The Raja of Sāndūr, Raja Srimant Venkata Rao, Rao Sahib Bhosle Hindu Rao Ghorapade Mamlukatmadar, Senapati, is a Mahratta, aged 31 years. He pays no tribute and maintains no military force. The area of the State is 167 square miles and the population according to the 1921 census is 11,686. The Collector of Bellary was the ex-officio Political Agent]

General

36. The general condition of Sāndūr State during the year under review was good. In spite of untimely rain and poor crops there was no distress. The office of Diwan was held successively by M.R.Ry. Meherban

A. Subbayya Garu, B.A., M.R.Ry. Abdul Wahab Sahib, and M.R.Ry. Meherban T. Ramachandra Ayyar, B.A. The latter is a Deputy Collector whose services have been lent to the State.

Finance

37. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 1·35 lakhs, an increase of Rs. ·18 lakh over the receipts of the previous year, and the expenditure to Rs. 1·03 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. ·07 lakh.

Protection

38. There were 39 crimes committed during the year as against 48 in the previous year. Of the cases actually charged, 12 ended in conviction and in 9 the accused were discharged. Two cases were compounded and three were thrown out as false. The Diwan exercised first-class magisterial powers and the powers of an Additional Sessions Judge. Seventy-six cases were tried as against 83 in the previous year. Four appeals were heard by the Huzur Court. Eleven prisoners were admitted to the jail during the year. The jail expenditure increased from Rs. 684 to Rs. 805. The Diwan exercised the powers of a District Munsif and heard 82 suits. There was a decrease in the value of documents registered which is attributed to the unfavourable character of the season and the dullness of the market.

Production and distribution

39. The rainfall was only 21·26 inches and was untimely. The crops were sown out of season and did not fare well, but there was no total failure of crops. The operations of the General Sāndūr Mining Company afforded some relief to the working classes and tended to raise the level of wages. The State forests continued to be productive, but no sandalwood was extracted during the year as arrangements were not made to work it departmentally. There were no indigenous industries of any importance.

Vital statistics and medical services

40. The health of the people during the year was good. There were 351 births and 299 deaths in the year as against 402 and 210, respectively, in the previous year. In the State dispensary there were 8,719 admissions in the year as against 9,855 in 1921-22.

Education

41. The incomplete secondary school at Sāndūr was raised to the status of a high school and the fourth form was opened last year. Four elementary schools were maintained by the State. There were also primary schools all of which were maintained from Temple Funds.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1332; Department of Statistics, India; Prices and Wages in India*]

42. There were no tracts requiring special notice on the ground of any permanent lowering in the standard of agricultural prosperity. Stocks of grain were generally sufficient. The prices of food grains were generally lower than in the previous fasli in the Circars and the Deccan. Elsewhere they were either stationary or higher than in the previous fasli especially in North Arcot, Trichinopoly, and in the southern districts. Wages continued to be high and the condition of labourers was improved by the further fall in the prices of food grains and cloth. Employment was available and emigration did not exceed the normal. Of the two monsoons the south-west was unfavourable except on the West Coast and the north-east very heavy. Vizagapatam had an unfavourable season though better than that of the previous fasli, necessitating remissions of revenue. The Rampa rebellion was local and did not materially affect the condition of the people in the Agency. The Gōdāvari delta suffered from the slack market for jaggery and the low prices of paddy and jaggery. Kurnool had a better season than last year as early crops yielded well and as cotton and groundnut commanded high prices. Test works and kitchens in the western taluks of Kurnool were

closed by August as conditions were improved by timely rainfall, the grant of takkavi loans, and extensive imports of grain. Bellary was less fortunate as the early crops failed and the late crops of cholam and cotton were poor. There was no actual distress, however, as people had reserves of grain and fodder, though they sank deeper into debt on account of a succession of bad years. Bumper crops were obtained on wet lands in the Carnatic though the yield of dry crops was as low as ever. The market for paddy was dull in Tanjore as Colombo got its supplies from Rangoon, and ryots had less money to spend for the purchase of manures. The season was abnormal in the southern districts but prices of cereals and cotton were in favour of the ryots. The West Coast had a good season, and good yields of paddy, pepper and coconuts were obtained. The pepper cultivators were however affected by low prices following upon the low yields of the previous fasli. The condition of the taluks in Malabar affected by the rebellion improved though it did not come up to normal. Progress was achieved in many directions partly as a direct result of the efforts of the Agricultural Department. More capital was devoted to reclaiming land and to digging or deepening wells. The tendency to grow industrial and garden crops like cambodia cotton, sugarcane, chillies and tobacco was more marked. Green manuring got into the regular wet land rotation in several tracts. Ryots were more eager to get improved strains of paddy and cotton. The demand for iron ploughs and other improved implements was more marked. The insufficiency of manures continued to be a serious handicap to the increased yield of crops in general and the prohibition or restriction of the export of indigenous manures such as fish, bones and oil-cakes appears to be the only remedy.

POLITICAL PENSIONS (1922–23)

43. On 1st April 1922, 457 persons were in receipt of political pensions, the aggregate value of which amounted to Rs. 2,58,516–7–0. During the year pensions amounting to Rs. 4,837–12–0 were newly sanctioned and pensions of the value of Rs. 3,742–1–0 lapsed. No pensions were transferred either from or to other provinces. Fourteen pensioners died during the year, two pensions were commuted and the names of twenty-five persons were added to the list of pensioners. On 1st April 1923, 466 persons were receiving pensions of the total value of Rs. 2,59,612–2–0. The payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries amounted to Rs. 1,94,319–6–11, of which Rs. 7,007 represents a commuted value. The Tanjore family received a sum of Rs. 29,338–12–5.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1331—1ST JULY 1921 TO 30TH JUNE 1922)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1331; Statistics of British India, Vol. II—Financial Statistics, Part II—Land Revenue*]

Sources of land revenue

44. The land revenue of the Presidency is derived from the following sources :—(*a*) Peshkash or revenue from permanently-settled estates, (*b*) shrotriyam jodi or quit-rent levied on inam villages, (*c*) assessment including water-rate on lands held under the ryotwari system, (*d*) miscellaneous revenue, (*e*) proprietary estates village service. The total current demand under land revenue and cesses was Rs. 8,00,16,689 against Rs. 791·17 lakhs in fasli 1330. Rupees 7,74,93,661 or 96·84 per cent were collected within the fasli and Rs. 3,706 were written off the accounts. The total amount of peshkash payable during the fasli was Rs. 49,86,020 as against Rs. 49,86,676 in the preceding year. The quit-rent payable on villages held on shrotriyam or favourable tenure decreased from Rs. 7,56,107 in fasli 1330 to Rs. 7,53,172 in fasli 1331. The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 26·23 million acres which exceeded the extent of the previous year (as now revised) by 94,542 acres. The increase was contributed by all the districts, except Bellary, Kurnool and Tanjore, which showed a slight decrease. The largest increase occurred in Anantapur (19,707 acres) and in South Kanara (12,566 acres). The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 541·29 lakhs against Rs. 537·66 lakhs in fasli 1330 showing an increase of Rs. 3,62,993 which was shared by all the districts except Gōdāvari. South Arcot was the only district in which the increase (Rs. 2,51,281) was marked. This was due to the introduction of resettlement rates in Chidambaram taluk during the year. The total area cultivated in ryotwari holdings during the year was 19·84 million acres as compared with 19·91 million acres in the previous fasli. The area under dry cultivation, 14,965,613 acres, showed a decrease of 132,178 acres and that under wet, 4,875,400 acres, an increase of 60,427 acres. The decrease under dry occurred in South Arcot, Madura, Trichinopoly, Salem and Tinnevelly and was due to untimely rain in Madura and want of rain in the other four districts. The increase under wet cultivation was marked in Anantapur owing chiefly to the season being more favourable than in the previous fasli. Including the area under "Miscellaneous cultivation" the total area cultivated was 20·86 million acres against 20·91 million acres in the previous year. The revenue derived from water-rate and second-crop charge fell to Rs. 32·60 lakhs from Rs. 34·70 lakhs in the previous year—a decrease of Rs. 2,09,942. The decrease was large in North Arcot, South Arcot and Chingleput and was due to defective rainfall. As compared with the previous year there was a decrease under "Season remissions" and an increase under "Fixed remissions" and "Beriz deductions." The net decrease under the three heads amounted to Rs. 2,15,482. The receipts from "Miscellaneous revenue" amounted to Rs. 100·31 lakhs against Rs. 100·41 lakhs in the previous year—a decrease of Rs. 9,484. The net ryotwari demand including water-rate second-crop charge and miscellaneous revenue and deducting remissions amounted to

Peshkash

Quit-rent

Ryotwari

Remissions

Miscellaneous

Rs. 654·67 lakhs against Rs. 651·08 lakhs in the previous year. The current demand under cesses increased from Rs. 76·06 lakhs to Rs. 81·65 lakhs. The total balance outstanding at the end of the fasli including both arrears and current was Rs. 27,63,515.

Collections

45. The charges of district administration including the salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors but excluding those of village establishments were Rs. 1,02,37,870 or 13 per cent of land revenue and cesses realized, as compared with 10·87 per cent in the preceding fasli. Village service charges (including proprietary estates) during the fasli were Rs. 1,08,49,301. Including this sum the total charges were Rs. 2,10,87,171 or 27·2 per cent of the collections of land revenue and cesses against 26·76 per cent in fasli 1330.

Coercive processes

46. The total number of all coercive processes issued during the year was 787,752—the lowest number during the last ten years. The number of defaulters whose property was sold was greater than in fasli 1330, being particularly large in South Arcot, Nellore and Madura. The large number of sales in South Arcot was due to a general shortage of money and to the lack of demand for groundnuts. In Guntūr district although the number of demand attachment and sale notices issued was very much higher than in previous years, the actual sales not only bore a small proportion to the number of notices issued but also were considerably less than in previous years. The percentage of actual sales to sale notices was 12·78 against 12·29 in fasli 1330 and the percentage of defaulters to the total number of pattas was 0·10 as against 0·08 in the preceding fasli. Immoveable property of the estimated value of Rs. 2,80,951 was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 69,013 and Rs. 86,028 were realized. Ten thousand five hundred and nine acres of dry and 1,737 acres of wet land were sold against 12,932 acres of dry and 3,086 acres of wet in fasli 1330. The total area of land bought in by Government for want of bidders was 5,180 acres of "dry" and 523 acres of "wet" as compared with 5,043 acres of the "dry" and 913 acres of "wet" in fasli 1330.

Transfers of registration

47. The number of applications for transfer of revenue registration received during the fasli from sub-registrars was 332, 319 against 315, 752 in the previous fasli ; applications received directly in the Revenue Department rose from 64,698 to 75,328—an increase of 10,630 or 16·43 per cent. The total number of applications for disposal in the fasli including the number pending investigation when it began was 604,169 ; of these 453,266 were disposed of during the fasli leaving a balance of 150,513 (excluding 390 cases destroyed during the rebellion in Malabar) as against 195,991 in the previous year. Of the total number of applications disposed of during the year 5·77 per cent were rejected.

Loans and advances

48. Advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act amounted to Rs. 8·22 lakhs and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to Rs. 13·16 lakhs, the aggregate amount being Rs. 21·38 lakhs against Rs. 16·28 lakhs in fasli 1330. There was a considerable increase in the advances granted in Kurnool and Bellary owing to the prevalence of famine in these districts. Of sums repayable under the Acts during the fasli, 71·2 per cent under the Land Improvement Loans Act and 61·0 per cent under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were collected. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts was Rs. 20,02,918, of which a sum of Rs. 3,74,634 or 18·7 per cent was collected without resort to coercion and a sum of Rs. 7,65,783 after the issue of demand notices. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 6,80,693 as against Rs. 5·77 lakhs in the previous year.

SURVEYS (1922-23)

[*Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1922-23 ; G.O. No. 1419, Revenue, dated the 20th September 1923*]

Parties

49. As in the previous year there were eight survey parties at work. Five of these were employed on the resurvey of ryotwari areas in the districts of Anantapur, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Malabar and the Nilgiris ; two wholly on estates in the Rāmnād and Madura districts ; and one, while principally engaged on estate survey work in the Tirumalai devastanam villages in the Chingleput and Chittoor districts, also did some resurvey work in the Narasapur taluk of the Kistna district.

Operations

Ryotwari areas

50. The total out-turn of the survey parties under cadastral resurvey of ryotwari areas was 1,613 square miles against the forecast of 1,355 square miles. Increased work was accomplished by Party No. III working in Anantapur and Trichinopoly districts, and by Party No. IV working in Trichinopoly district. Party No. VIII also did increased work owing to the fact that it was entrusted in the course of the year with the resurvey work of the villages affected by the Mappilla rebellion in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks of the Malabar district although according to forecast it was to have done only the theodolite survey work of Calicut and Palghat taluks. Some of the land surveyed by these parties during the year has still to be mapped. The initial survey of an aggregate area of 4·4 square miles of resumed inams and disafforested blocks in Rāmnād and South Arcot districts was completed as compared with a forecasted out-turn of 15·85 square miles. The entire area could not be surveyed as forest growth had not been cleared from it. The total out-turn in estate surveys fell short of the estimate by only 7 square miles. Pending the final decision of the question whether the responsibility for urban surveys and their maintenance should be left entirely to the Municipalities and Union Boards, no town or union was forecasted for survey during the year. Orders were, however, received after the close of the year to resume operations in the Ongole Municipality.

Estates

Urban surveys

Finance

51. The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 20,55,310 against Rs. 19,78,081 in the previous year. The small increase in expenditure is due to, and is more than counterbalanced by, the increase in out-turn.

SETTLEMENTS (1922-23)

[*Report on the administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1922-23 ; G.O. No. 1419, Revenue, dated the 20th September 1923*]

Parties

52. As in the previous year five settlement parties were at work during the year. Party No. I worked in the Tanjore district, Party No. II in the districts of South Arcot, North Arcot and Chingleput, Party No. III in Bellary and Anantapur, Party No. IV in Trichinopoly, Madura and Rāmnād and Party No. V in Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari and Kistna. Party No. V was almost entirely employed in connexion with the preparation of record-of-rights and the settlement of rents under the Estates Land Act. The re-settlement of the Nilgiris and Malabar Wynaads which had been in abeyance since January 1922 was resumed in December 1922 and continued till the end of the year.

Operations

Ganjām

53. In Ganjām a preliminary record-of-rights was published for 21 villages of the Mandasa estate and seven villages of the Jarada estate. A final record-of-rights was published for the 21 villages of the Mandasa estate and for part of Kotturu village in the Parlākimedi estate. Draft rent-rolls were published for the same 21 villages of the Mandasa estate, for Tandipuram village of the Surangi estate and for part of

Kotturu. Objections to the draft rent-rolls were heard for seven villages of the Mandasa estate, two of the Baruva estate, Peddatungam village of Peddatungam estate and Tandipuram village of the Surangi estate. For all these villages, except Tandipuram, consolidated records-of-rights and settlement records were published. Rough pattas were prepared for Vizagapatam
the hill villages of the Adakula and Sarugudu in Golgonda taluk, but the introduction of settlement in these villages was afterwards postponed. The revision of assessment of whole inam villages for purposes of land-cess was completed. In Gōdāvari district the preliminary and final Gōdāvari
records-of-rights of Gollaprolu village were published. The final record- Kistna
of-rights was published for the villages of Kalagampudi, Konitivada and Ravipadu in Kistna district. Draft rent-rolls were published for Kalagampudi and Konitivada. Objections to the draft rent-rolls of Peddamamidipalli and Kalagampudi were heard and the consolidated records-of-rights and settlement records of those villages were published. Revision of adangals and survey of subdivisions were completed in Bellary and
five and were in progress in two taluks. The Special Revenue In- Anantapur
spectors dealt with 165 ryotwari and 15 shrotriyam villages, while the Special Deputy Tahsildars completed their check in 158 ryotwari and 15 shrotriyam villages. Surveyors measured subdivisions in 170 ryotwari and 18 shrotriyam villages and plotted them in the field measurement books of 192 ryotwari and 33 shrotriyam villages. Government passed orders on the scheme report for the re-settlement of the black-soil taluks of the two districts and the draft notification for the re-settlement was published. Rough pattas were issued and objections heard in nearly all villages within these taluks. A scheme report for the re-settlement of the red-soil taluks of Bellary district was submitted to Government. Diglot registers were completed for North Arcot
235 villages in North Arcot district and the re-classification of lands registered as grazing ground poramboke at the re-settlement was finished. The consolidated record-of-rights and settlement record of the village of Marudalam-Muttuvadi in Wallajah taluk was published. In Chingle- Chingleput
put district a scheme for the settlement of the resumed inam village of Erivakkam was submitted to Government. The re-survey records of South Arcot
all villages in Vriddhachalam taluk except one, and one and six villages respectively of Chidambaram and Kallakurchi taluks in South Arcot district were finally scrutinized, rough pattas were issued and objections heard for nearly all the villages concerned. Fair accounts for most of these villages were furnished to the Revenue Department and diglot registers were prepared for 21 villages of Kallakurchi and Cuddalore taluks. A report on the introduction of settlement rates in Tirukkōyilūr and Kallakurchi was submitted. Orders were passed by Government on Tanjore
the scheme report for the re-settlement of Tanjore district and a draft notification was published. Considerable progress was made in the final scrutiny of resurvey records and in the issue of rough pattas and hearing of objections. Fair accounts for 153 villages were handed over to the Revenue Department. Proposals for the revision of ground rents in the district were submitted to Government. The revision of adangals was continued in Trichinopoly district; Trichinopoly
rough pattas were issued for 58 villages and objections were heard. Fair accounts for 42 villages were handed over to the Revenue Department. The preparation of the scheme report for the re-settlement of the district was in progress and proposals for the revision of ground-rents on the sites in Mailansandai included in Trichinopoly Municipality were submitted to Government. In Madura district diglot registers for Madura
six villages were completed and the draft rent-roll of seven villages was published. Diglot registers for 146 whole inam villages were furnished to the President, District Board. The draft rent-roll for Puvandi in Rāmnād
Rāmnād district was published and the preliminary records-of-rights of nine villages were corrected with reference to orders passed on objection Nilgiri and
petitions. In the Wynaads final check of the resurvey records for six Malabar
villages was completed and the fair re-settlement registers of four villages Wynaad

were written up. Statistics for the preparation of a scheme for the re-settlement of the tract were compiled.

Registers 54. The re-settlement registers of 260 villages were sent to the Press from the settlement party officers and those of 841 villages were printed and despatched to Collectors during the year.

Finance 55. The expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 8,18,822 as against Rs. 8,08,072 last year.

LAND RECORDS (1922–23)

[*Report on the administration of the Land Records Department for the year 1922–23; G.O. No. 1419, Revenue, dated the 20th September 1923*]

General 56. No special difficulty was experienced during the year in continuing the work of the Land Records Department under the altered conditions created by the abolition of that department on 1st May 1921. In some districts, however, the Revenue Inspectors were unable to complete the minimum amount of maintenance work prescribed during the year.

Maintenance 57. Regular maintenance was in progress throughout the Presidency, except in parts of South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, North Arcot and Guntūr districts. In these excepted tracts maintenance was not begun either because preliminary operations had not been completed or because the tracts were under re-survey or re-settlement. In Malabar district and in the delta taluks of Gōdāvari and Kistna districts, except Razole and Narasapur taluks, maintenance was confined to measurement of current subdivisions and replacement of stones on poramboke boundaries, since the existing survey of those tracts is defective. The progress in the checkmeasurement of subdivisions during the year was satisfactory, but the arrears under mapping increased considerably in many districts. The progress in stone maintenance was not satisfactory and there was a net increase of 8 per cent in the arrears at the end of the year. Ryots' repairs increased in many districts, particularly in Tanjore, Madura and Chittoor. Fees charged for the repair and renewal of stones increased from Rs. 1,27,161 in the previous year to Rs. 1,38,288. The condition of the Great Trigonometrical stations and bench marks was generally satisfactory and necessary action was taken in respect of such as were in need of repairs.

Training 58. Twelve joint survey schools were held in different districts during the year by Tahsildars specially appointed for the purpose and 281 revenue subordinates from all districts were trained. The training of karnams was conducted by competent firka revenue inspectors and schools were held in all districts, except Nellore, Rāmnād, Malabar and the Nilgiris.

Maintenance of town and union surveys 59. The question whether town and union surveys should be transferred entirely to the control of the municipalities or local boards concerned or to the Survey department is still under the consideration of Government.

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[*Season and Crop Report for the agricultural year 1922–23*]

60. The total area of the Presidency for which detailed information was received was 89·806 million acres, of which a net extent of 32·997 million acres was under cultivation as against 33·012 million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest increased from 13·055 million

acres to 13·108 million acres, while 21·319 million acres (or 0·093 million acre less than in the previous year) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 10·211 million acres were fallow and 12·171 million acres formed culturable waste other than fallow, as against 10·032 million acres and 12·179 million acres, respectively, in the previous fasli.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

61. There is nothing to record under this head for the Presidency.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1331—1ST JULY 1921 TO 30TH JUNE 1922)

[*Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1331 (1921–22)*]

Estates under management

62. Twenty-one estates were under the superintendence of the Court at the end of fasli 1330. The estate of Shērmuhammadpuram in the Vizagapatam district was taken under management on 31st October 1921 and the Shūlagiri estate in the Salem district on 22nd December 1921, as the proprietrix of the former and the proprietor of the latter were minors. The Sāptūr estate in Madura and the Bērikai estate in Salem were handed over to their proprietors who had attained their majority on the 5th March and 1st June 1922, respectively. Thus, the number of estates under the Court's management at the end of fasli 1331 was twenty-one.

Estates handed over

63. Of the estates which were handed over, the Sāptūr estate had been under the Court's superintendence for fifteen years. During this period, the revenue demand of the estate rose from Rs. 61,322 to Rs. 1,08,202 and the collections from Rs. 41,270 to Rs. 90,683 ; of the debts due to the estate, Rs. 1,239 were recovered and Rs. 4,256 were written off ; debts due by the estate, amounting to Rs. 2,60,734, were liquidated ; irrigation works were improved at a cost of Rs. 99,121, and Rs. 63,354 were expended on buildings, roads and other improvements. The forests of the estate were worked according to the rules sanctioned by Government under section 26 of the Madras Forest Act. On the date of rendition, the estate was free from debts and had to its credit a cash balance of Rs. 24,748 besides Government Promissory Notes and War Bonds of the aggregate face-value of Rs. 95,400. Rents in kind for wet lands and cropwar assessments for dry lands were converted into money-rents in fasli 1319. The Bērikai estate was under the Court's management for nearly 9 years and during this period, the revenue demand fell from Rs. 42,601 to Rs. 38,549 on the date of rendition. This decline was mainly due to a fall in the income from forests, owing to the temporary abolition of grazing fees in unreserved forest areas and the low amount realized from the lease of minor forest produce ; nevertheless, debts amounting to Rs. 1,03,656 were discharged, Rs. 7,085 were spent on irrigation works and Rs. 13,862 on other improvements. A noteworthy feature of the Court's regime was the formation of a road at a cost of Rs. 10,107 from Veppanapalli to Bērikai through the heart of the estate to a length of about 10 miles. After retaining the amount required for post-rendition charges, a cash balance of Rs. 863 was handed over to the proprietor on the date of rendition and the estate was free from debt. Sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act were extended to the estate forests.

Finance

Demand, collection and balance

64. Leaving out of account the two estates which were restored, and the Jeypore Kumarika's estate which was allowed to remain under the supervision of the Maharaja of Jeypore, subject to the Agency Commissioner's control, the gross current demand of the estates amounted to

Rs. 28·50 lakhs. Excluding remissions which amounted to Rs. 0·09 lakh, the net demand was Rs. 28·41 lakhs. Among the eighteen estates (exclusive of Shērmuhammadpuram and Shūlagiri) which were under management during both the faslis 1330 and 1331, there was a net decrease of Rs. 1·67 lakhs in the demand of fasli 1331, as compared with that of the previous year. This was the result of decreases (Rs. 2·29 lakhs) in eight estates and increases (Rs. 0·62 lakh) in ten others. The bulk of the total decrease occurred in the Zamorin's estate (Rs. 2·01 lakhs) while the increase was mostly in Sivaganga (Rs. 0·49 lakh). Of the total current demand of Rs. 28·41 lakhs, Rs. 22·50 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0·15 lakh written off during the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 5·76 lakhs at its close. Excluding subsequent collections, remissions and amounts which, after the close of the fasli, were recommended by Collectors to be written off, the net recoverable balance amounted to Rs. 5·16 lakhs, or 18·1 per cent of the demand against Rs. 19·8 per cent in the previous year. In Māmbārai, there was no balance outstanding ; in six estates, the balance was less than 5 per cent of the demand ; in three, it ranged between 5 and 10 per cent ; and in four, between 10 and 25 per cent. The balance exceeded 25 per cent in the remaining six estates. The total arrears demand for all estates except those of the Jeypore Kumārikā and Shērmuhammadpuram at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 9·61 lakhs, of which Rs. 4·58 lakhs were outstanding at its close. There were no outstanding arrears in Kūdapalli, Māmbārai and Kadambūr ; in five estates, the balance was below Rs. 1,000 ; in three, it ranged between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 5,000 ; and in three others, between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 10,000. The outstanding arrears exceeded Rs. 10,000 in the remaining five estates. Excluding Bērikai and Saptūr, the aggregate cash balance of the estates at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 5·30 lakhs. The total cash receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 33·01 lakhs. The total assets for the fasli in cash were therefore Rs. 38·31 lakhs. The total expenditure during the fasli amounted to Rs. 33·98 lakhs, leaving a cash balance of Rs. 4·33 lakhs at its close. Including Government Promissory Notes and other securities of the aggregate face-value of Rs. 4·72 lakhs, held on behalf of some of the estates and the estimated value of grain on hand at the end of year, viz., Rs. 3·86 lakhs, the total closing balance to the credit of the estates was Rs. 12·91 lakhs. The ordinary cash receipts and charges of the year amounted to Rs. 27·23 lakhs and Rs. 26·14 lakhs, respectively, as compared with Rs. 26·91 lakhs and Rs. 23·78 lakhs in the previous year.

Surplus balances

Śivaganga, Ūttumalai and Ūrkkādu had surplus balances exceeding a lakh of rupees at the end of the year. The surplus in Sivaganga is required for the construction of a palace for the Zamindar, the carrying out of a works' programme at an estimated cost of Rs. 7,00,000 and the survey and settlement of the estate, which is in rapid progress. As the Ūttumalai estate is practically in the hands of the Civil Court's Receiver, the balance will be utilized in accordance with the orders of the Civil Court. A portion of the surplus in Ūrkkādu was utilized towards the marriage expenses of the ward and the rest is required for the construction of a new palace at Ūrkkādu.

Agricultural improvements

The two home-farms in the Zamorin's estate were maintained during the year and two paddy crops and a vegetable crop of pumpkins, cucumber, etc., were raised. The margin of profit was very small chiefly owing to the floods of July 1922 and the Mappilla rebellion. The home-farm in the Guruvāyūr Devaswam estate includes a dairy. The farm should have been started first but circumstances delayed its operation till long after the dairy was opened. The result was that the dairy had to be worked as an independent concern and its upkeep was in consequence expensive. The cost amounted to Rs. 3,226 while the receipts from the dairy produce were only Rs. 2,315. It is anticipated that the dairy will yield better results during the current fasli and the establishment of a superior breed of cattle should prove beneficial to the neighbourhood. The operations in the farm during the fasli consisted mainly of reclamation work. Steps have been taken to improve the existing arecanut garden which was in a neglected condition, as it should

prove to be a good source of income to the estate. Several of the wells have been steined and revetted and irrigation facilities have been ensured. Excluding the Jeypore Kumārika's estate, wherein no establishment for management was entertained and no Government commission was paid, the average percentage for all the estates was 24·6 against 24·3 last year. Taking the estates individually, the percentage exceeded the prescribed maximum limit of 12 in all the estates except two. Circumstances vary greatly in different estates, and experience has shown that the limit of 12 per cent limit is an anachronism and cannot be held to apply to the present altered conditions in estates, especially as there has been a large increase in the pay and travelling allowance of estate subordinates, owing to the rise in prices. In six estates, the percentages were noticeably high, viz., Pedda Mērangi (26·0), Madugula (54·6), Madukkūr (32·5), Sivaganga (28·0), Mannārkōttai (34·4) and Ūttumalai (23·1). In Pedda Mērangi and Madukkūr, the percentages were lower than those of the previous year, viz., 32·6 and 48·5, respectively. The heavy percentages in Madugula and Mannārkōttai were mainly due to the decrease in normal receipts owing to the unfavourable character of the season. In Madugula, the fall in the income from forests also contributed to the increase in percentage. In Sivaganga, the percentage was slightly higher than that of the previous year, viz., 27·0, and calls for no remarks. In Ūttumalai, the increase was mainly due to the payment of Government commission within the fasli instead of after the fasli as usual. This was necessitated by the appointment of a Receiver for the estate.

Establishment charges

65. Special attention was paid by the Court to the improvement and repair of existing irrigation works and the construction of new works wherever practicable, in all the estates under its superintendence. Programmes extending over a specified number of years have been prepared and approved in respect of the irrigation works in Ārni, Chundi, Kadavūr, Sivaganga, Talaivankōttai and Ūttumalai and they are being carried out as far as possible with due regard to the financial condition of the respective estates. In Ārni, Sivaganga, Ūttumalai, Ūrkkādu, and Talaivankōttai, the progress made during the year in the execution of maramat works was very satisfactory. Including the Devasthanam (or Dēvaswam) and Chattram sections in estates in which these sections have separate endowments, the total allotment for works in all the estates was Rs. 10·88 lakhs, of which Rs. 9·23 lakhs, or 84·9 per cent, were actually expended during the year against Rs. 5·90 lakhs, or 89·2 per cent in the previous year. The aggregate value of work executed but not paid for within the fasli amounted to Rs. 1·01 lakhs. The total value of the work done during the year was therefore Rs. 10·24 lakhs or 94·1 per cent of the allotment as compared with Rs. 6·35 lakhs or 96·1 per cent in fasli 1330. Of the total expenditure, Rs. 5·54 lakhs were spent on irrigation works, Rs. 1·87 lakhs on buildings, Rs. 0·45 lakh on roads and other works and Rs. 1·37 lakhs on establishment and contingencies. The aggregate outlay during the fasli, on such works, was 28·8 per cent of the total ordinary charges of the year, including those of the Devasthanam (or Dēvaswam) and Chattram sections against 20·6 per cent last year.

Works

66. The aggregate amount of debt due to the several estates at the beginning of the year was Rs. 9·16 lakhs; of which, Rs. 0·26 lakh was collected and Rs. 0·10 lakh written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 8·80 lakhs at the end of the year, appertaining to fourteen estates. The outstanding balance was large in the Jeypore Kumārikā's estate (Rs. 7·79 lakhs) and Sivaganga (Rs. 0·67 lakh). The amount due to the Jeypore Kumārikā's estate comprises Rs. 5¼ lakhs covered by a decree which the Maharaja of Jeypore has undertaken to execute and Rs. 2½ lakhs lent to the Maharaja during the year under report. Of the balance in Sivaganga, Rs. 0·61 lakh was due from Mannārkōttai and Jeypore Kumārikā's estates; and, for the recovery of the bulk of the balance, execution applications were about to be filed. Including debts newly contracted and those newly brought to account during the year (Rs. 0·12 lakh) and the interest and costs which accrued during the year (Rs. 0·45 lakh), the total liabilities amounted to

Debts due to the estates

Debts due by the estates

Rs. 25·72 lakhs; of which, Rs. 1·39 lakhs were repaid and Rs. 0·30 lakh struck off, leaving a balance of Rs. 24·03 lakhs at the end of the year, payable by fifteen estates. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000 in Shērmuhammadpuram, Ārni, Madukkūr, Kadavūr, Kūdapalli and Mannārkōttai. The only estates in which the provisions of section 45 of the Madras Court of Wards Act continued to be in force during the year were Kadavūr and Ārni. Debts amounting to Rs. 22,000 were paid off in the Kadavūr estate, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,01,117 at the close of the year. In the Ārni estate, a debt of Rs. 27,120 was repaid and Rs. 18,350 was struck off, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,51,743. It is hoped that the outstanding liabilities of both the estates will, in due course, be discharged in accordance with the scheme prepared by the Decree Collector under the rules framed by Government under section 45 of the Court of Wards Act. Section 45 has since been extended to the Bāgalūr and Shūlagiri estates.

Encumbered estates

Education

67. The general arrangements made after the closing of Newington for the education and up-bringing of the wards continued to be in force during the fasli.

Religious and charitable institutions attached to the estates

68. Separate accounts were, as usual, maintained for the religious and charitable institutions attached to Madukkūr, Kadavūr, Kūdapalli, Sivaganga, Ūttumalai, Ūrkkādu and Talaivankōttai and for the Guruvāyūr Dēvaswam estate. The administration of these institutions was satisfactory and their financial condition was generally sound. During the last month of the fasli, the trust institutions of the Ūttumalai estate passed into the hands of the Receiver appointed by the Civil Court. The amalgamation of the Ayan, Devasthanam and Chattram sections in the Sivaganga estate, except in the matter of accounts, worked well during the fasli. For the large number of institutions hitherto worked along with secular institutions of the Zamorin's estate, a separate budget estimate was sanctioned for the year and separate accounts were maintained. In spite of the embarrassment caused by the Mappilla rebellion, these institutions were managed without the necessity of taking any loan from the Ayan section. Though it was anticipated that the rebellion would seriously affect the income of the Guruvāyūr Dēvaswam, it is a matter for congratulation that neither its receipts nor its popularity suffered on that account and its financial position continued to be sound and satisfactory.

Miscellaneous

69. The Second-grade College maintained by the Zamorin's estate worked satisfactorily during the fasli. The strength of the institution increased and the fee income rose, but the Government's grant fell, during the year. By the generosity of the Zamorin, the College, which was formerly open only to the higher castes, has been thrown open to other castes, and there are now on the rolls two Muhammadans, nine Chalians (weavers) and five Thiyyas. At the public examination the institution did not fare so well as it did last year, but the results compared favourably with those of other institutions in the district. The continuance of the Mappilla rebellion during the whole of the long term had a disturbing effect on the tuition as well as on the students' application to their studies. The College was not, however, closed on this account. The College took part in the public welcome accorded to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales during his visit to Madras in January 1922. Hockey, football and badminton continued to be the favourite games of the boys. A noteworthy feature in the management of the College during the year was the organization of a Scouts Troop from among the students. The Hostel attached to the College continued to work satisfactorily. The Raja's High School and Alice Millar Girls' School at Sivaganga were under the supervision of the Zamindar, subject to the control of the Estate Collector, and there was an increase in the strength of these institutions. The High School did creditably in the Secondary School-leaving Certificate examination. Cricket, hockey and other field-games have been introduced and are being played with vigour and zest. The

financial condition continued to be satisfactory. Though the Girls' School was still not self-supporting, there was some improvement in strength and average attendance. The Zamorin's estate continued to maintain the residential Vedic School known as Othenmar Madam and to contribute to the upkeep of the Sanskrit College at Pattāmbi. The work of the Elementary School at Ūrkkādu, maintained by the estate, continued to be satisfactory. The Veterinary Hospital maintained by the Ūttumalai estate worked satisfactorily and the Veterinary Assistant and his peons have been provided with quarters. The survey of the Sivaganga estate was continued during the year. The Chundi ward was married during the fasli. With the approval of the Secretary of State for India, the peshkash of the Bāgalūr estate was reduced from Rs. 14,483 to Rs. 6,719–3–5 and the arrears due by the estate from the 1st March 1917 were written off, subject to the condition among others that the peshkash shall be liable to be again enhanced to the former amount, if and when the estate passes out of the possession of the Poligar or his heirs. The Mappilla rebellion necessarily impeded progress in the Zamorin's estate. The occurrence caused great distress to the Zamorin who permitted the use of the entire palace as a refugees' camp where the refugees were fed gratuitously by the estate. The upkeep of this camp cost the estate Rs. 15,900 and odd.

Condition of tenants

70. The ryots in Chundi, Madugula, Madukkūr, Kadavūr and Ūttumalai are reported to be generally indebted and, in the remaining estates, the majority of the ryots are solvent. The condition of tenants in all estates has, however, materially improved since the Court of Wards assumed superintendence.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1331—1ST JULY 1921 TO 30TH JUNE 1922)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1331*]

Revenue-paying classes

71. The principal revenue-paying classes of the Presidency are zamindars, whole inamdars, minor inamdars and ryotwari pattadars. The last class predominated largely and contributed about 76·02 per cent of the land revenue. There was an increase of about ·36 per cent in the total extent of ryotwari holdings as compared with that of the previous fasli.

Rent-paying classes

72. Tenants in zamindari and whole inam villages constitute the rent-paying classes. Sub-letting was prevalent among absentee pattadars, among those engaged in professions other than agriculture, and among capitalists and large landholders. The system was on the increase in the Madakasira taluk of the Anantapur district, where most of the fertile lands are owned by Brahmans and Vaisyas who are not professional farmers. There was a similar increase in the Goomsur taluk of the Ganjām district, in the Sarvasiddhi taluk of the Vizagapatam district, and in the Gūdūr taluk of the Nellore district. But in Gōdāvari and parts of the Bellary district the system is losing ground on account of the general tendency of the ryots to secure for themselves a full share of the produce owing to its enhanced value due to the high prices of food-grains.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

73. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1922-23)

Changes in the Council

74. During the year eight bye-elections were held in the Presidency. One of these was caused by the death of the elected representative of the Tinnevelly cum Palamcottah non-Muhammadan urban constituency. The others were consequent on the resignation of elected members. In seven out of the eight bye-elections representatives were returned unopposed. Seven vacancies occurred through the resignation of nominated members ; six of these were duly filled up and one was left unfilled owing to the prospective dissolution of the Council.

Legislation

75. Ten Bills were introduced during the year of which six became law. The Irrigation Bill which was introduced on the 9th January was rejected by the Council. The Hindu Religious Endowments Bill was passed on the 3rd April 1923 and is still the subject of correspondence with the Government of India. Bills to amend the Madras District Municipalities and the Madras Local Boards Acts were referred to select committees. As the committees did not sit before the dissolution of the Council these two Bills will have to be reintroduced at the next session. Of the six Bills which became law one of the most important was the State Aid to Industries Act which provided for State assistance to industrial enterprise in this Presidency, both by financial measures and by providing any raw materials, which are the property of Government, on favourable terms. The measure applies to such industries of economic importance as are either in themselves new or are being introduced into new areas and to cottage industries. The Board of Industries which before the passing of the Bill had existed in virtue of an executive order was placed on a statutory basis. The forms of financial aid contemplated are loans ; subsidies for installing machinery and for conducting research ; State guarantees and the taking up by the State of shares and debentures in industrial enterprises. All loans or advances are to be secured as a charge upon the whole assets of the enterprise subject to prior encumbrances and by collateral security if required. Extensive powers were conferred on the Government for the regulation of action taken under the Bill. The Madras Port Trust Amendment Act introduced such amendments in the Madras Port Trust Act, 1905, as experience had shown to be necessary for administrative convenience. In particular it provided for the filling of vacancies occurring among the Chairman and Trustees and the grant of pay and allowances to the acting Chairman. The maximum limit of officials to be appointed to the Trust and the minimum number of Indian members were also fixed. Provision was also made for the institution of a Provident Fund for artisans and labourers and for the grant of compassionate allowance to relatives of

persons who die while in the service of the Board. The arrangement under which certain services in connection with the landing and shipping of goods are transferred, under the authority of Government, to landing agents were regularized. The provisions relating to the borrowing powers of the Board were revised and the main provisions of the Indian Securities Act, 1920, were made applicable to its transactions. The Madras University Act was passed with the objects of creating a residential University which should organize and control the instruction given in the various colleges, and of encouraging feelings of unity amongst its members. The colleges in the city will become constituent parts of the new University and will undertake teaching as at present, but each will specialize in certain departments of learning so as to prevent a duplication of effort on the part of the several colleges in the same direction. The function of the University will be to correlate the work and teaching of the various colleges. It will continue to exercise its present jurisdiction over the mufassal colleges which will be affiliated to it. The administration of the University will be in the hands of the Senate, the constitution of which is organized so as to include both those who are educationists and those who are connected with the actual business and commercial life of the Presidency. A very large elective element has been introduced in the composition of the Senate. The other three Acts passed during the year were the Malabar Completion of Trials Act, 1923, Madras City Municipal Amendment Act and the Madras Stamp Amendment Act. No Bill was sent up to the Government of India for introduction in the Indian Legislature.

POLICE (1922)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1922; Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, Judicial, etc.—Police*]

Administrative changes

76. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 29,596 or 301 more than the figure for the previous year. The most important addition was that made to the Madras City Police, the strength of which was raised by 359, partly for the Armed Reserve and partly for the divisional police. The abolition of certain magistrates' orderlies caused a reduction of 149 constables throughout the Presidency. The strength of the Rajahmundry Reserve of the Agency Division was augmented by 91 and it was constituted into a striking force for the East Coast districts under the designation of the Rajahmundry Special Force. A Special Superintendent of Police was appointed temporarily with headquarters at Malappuram to take charge of the most important part of the area of South Malabar affected by the Mappilla rebellion. The Kallar Special Officer was given the rank of a Superintendent. One officer who was on military duty left the service during the year; four officers of the Imperial Service and three of the Provincial Service retired. The Force had also the misfortune to lose two officers—Mr. Scott-Coward, Assistant Superintendent of Police, and Mr. Hayter, temporary Assistant Superintendent of Police—who were killed in action in the Agency rebellion.

Casualties

Recruitment and discipline

77. Owing to the abolition of the vacancy reserve, the excess over the sanctioned strength at the end of the year was only 74. Except in Madras City and in Gōdāvari where the Rajahmundry Special Force was formed, there was practically no recruitment. In the city a further revision in pay resulted in an improvement in recruiting. The number of resignations fell by 157 during the year and that of desertions by 73. These decreases are no doubt due to improved conditions of service. The number of punishments increased from the unusually low figure of 24·9 per cent in 1921 to 29·6 per cent, which is about the average of recent years. The increase was probably due to the better discipline which was insisted on

in certain districts. The percentage of punishments for absence without leave rose from 6·5 to 7·5 the rise being due to the fact that owing to the abolition of the vacancy reserve, leave could not be granted as freely as before. Dismissals increased from 238 to 249 and the percentage of black marks awarded increased from 18·2 to 21·9. The number of police officers convicted by criminal courts, however, fell from 126 to 102, of whom 56 were

Rewards. punished for offences committed by them in their official capacity. The C.I.E. was awarded to Mr. R. H. Hitchcock, M.B.E. and the I.S.O. to M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur S. Bhavanandam Pillai Avargal. Three officers received the title of Khan Bahadur, three that of Rao Bahadur, two that of Khan Sahib and three that of Rao Sahib. The King's Police Medal was conferred on eleven officers. Owing to the necessity for economy the total value of monetary rewards given to the police during the year was only Rs. 32,907 as compared with Rs. 54,185 in 1921, while those given to private individuals also fell from Rs. 36,201 to Rs. 22,134.

Education 78. The percentage of illiterate head constables was only 0·8 of the total number at the end of the year, while that of illiterate constables was 6·6. The Provincial Training School at Vellore continued its work during the year, but the post of Principal was abolished at the end of May, the Superintendent of Police, North Arcot, being thereafter in charge of the school in addition to his other duties. At the end of the year the only officers undergoing training in the school were four Probationary Assistant Superintendents. A pass in First-Aid to the Injured was made compulsory for probationary Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors before their confirmation. All Central Recruits Schools were closed throughout the

Shorthand year. Thirty-four Sub-Inspectors were attached to the Shorthand Bureau. During the year they attended 796 political meetings and 34 conferences. They had to give evidence in numerous cases and their reports proved satisfactory as legal evidence.

Cost 79. The total cost of the department amounted to Rs. 1,67,40,181 as against Rs. 162 lakhs in 1921–22. The rise of Rs. 5,24,354 was caused in part by the increase in the strength of the City Police and in part by the expenditure incurred for the Agency operations and for the establishment of the Malabar Special Police.

Village Police 80. In places where the non-co-operation movement was active the village officers failed to render assistance to the police ; in other places their work was satisfactory. Rewards aggregating Rs. 5,179 were granted to 607 village officers during the year. In Kistna district monetary rewards for good work have been replaced by the grant of certificates and the new system has found favour with the village officers. The work of ghat talaiyaris was uniformly satisfactory.

Armed Reserves 81. The Armed Reserves were kept up to strength and efficiently discharged those duties which are usually required of them. The crushing of the Agency rebellion, however, proved to be beyond their capacity. Neither their organization, training, equipment nor arms fitted them to deal with so vast an operation, and, although many of them did good work, they were unable effectively to cope with the situation.

Railway Police 82. The jurisdiction of the Madras and Trichinopoly Railway Police remained unchanged. Thefts, the most common crimes on railways, increased from 2,521 to 2,738. Nine attempts to derail trains were made, but none was of much importance. There were 62 cases of stone-throwing, of which 4 ended in conviction.

C.I.D. and control of criminals 83. The permanent staff of the Criminal Investigation department was reduced by an inspector and four head constables. The visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales entailed a considerable amount of work. Many special inquiries into such important matters as forgeries of currency notes and loss of insured postal articles were conducted by the department during the year. The Finger-print Bureau dealt with 17,738 references for the antecedents of unidentified persons during the year—an increase of 563 references over last year. The finger print staff

attended courts to prove previous convictions or to give expert evidence on 437 occasions and in 75 cases written opinions were furnished. The provisions of sections 3 and 10 of the Criminal Tribes Act were applied to six tribes during the year. Convictions for offences under the Criminal Tribes Act fell from 3,364 to 2,849. Supervision over registered members was generally effective, the unsatisfactory feature being the large number of criminals who contrived to abscond from the Criminal Tribes settlements in Nellore and Guntūr districts and to commit crimes both in those districts and in Kurnool and Kistna. The work of reclaiming the Kallars continued satisfactorily during the year and was extended to the Piramalai Kallars of Rāmnād district.

Crime

84. The season was, on the whole, good and there was, in consequence, but little unemployment. These circumstances resulted in the further diminution of crime which marked the year. The total number of cognizable cases declined from 56,131 to 52,067—a decrease of 7·2 per cent. Offences under special and local laws also fell from 18,541 to 17,227. There were 3,418 cases of grave crime less than in the previous year. This decrease occurred under all heads of grave crime but particularly under dacoity and house-breaking which showed a decline of 29·9 per cent and 13·5 per cent respectively. Murder cases decreased from 984 to 910, Coimbatore being the district in which the largest number was committed. In the early weeks of 1922 the Non-co-operation and Khilafat movements in Guntūr district culminated in a determination to pay no taxes. The movement, however, completely broke down in face of the strong action taken by Government to combat it. More serious was the rebellion which broke out in the Agency under the leadership of one Alluri Srirama Razu, a Kshatriya of Kistna district and a man of some education. As a result of two successful actions the Police managed to inflict severe casualties on the rebels and to break up their main body, but the area in which the operations were being conducted was so vast that in spite of magnificent efforts, the Police were unable, with the numbers and equipment at their disposal, finally to stamp out the rebellion.

Detection and prevention of crime

85. Detection remained stationary notwithstanding an appreciable decrease in the volume of cognizable crime. The percentage of murders which were detected remained the same, that of dacoities improved by 2·2 per cent while that of other grave crimes decreased. In 8·1 per cent of the total number of reported cases investigation was refused. The percentage of property recovered to that lost was 23·6 as against 19·2 last year. The number of cases prosecuted by the prosecuting staff in Madras city was 1,695 as against 1,505 last year and in the mufassal 10,751 as against 8,342. The percentage of successful prosecutions rose from 69·3 to 76·4 per cent. The number of appeals which were opposed increased from 886 to 1,063 and the percentage of success was 74·9 per cent as against 73·8. The scheme of setting apart special days in Magistrate's Courts for the trial of police cases worked well in most districts.

Escapes

86. During the year 183 persons escaped from police custody as against 171 in the previous year. One hundred and thirty-five of those who escaped during the year and 8 of those who escaped in previous years were recaptured. Of the police men responsible 88 were punished departmentally and 55 were prosecuted of whom 27 were convicted.

False cases

87. The number of cases struck off as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,613—a decrease of 299 from last year's figures. In 170 cases the persons responsible for preferring the false complaints were prosecuted and in 72 cases they were convicted. Of cases prosecuted by the District Police 0·1 per cent were declared false after trial.

Security proceedings

88. The number of persons bound over under the security sections, during the year was 1,793, the majority of whom were petty thieves (698) and known depredators (476).

Madras City Police

89. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force at the end of 1922 was 1,992 or 354 more than in the previous year. There were 350 enlistments during the year and only 24 vacancies at the end of it. This improvement in recruiting was the result of the further revision of the pay of the constabulary during the year. The revision in pay resulted in a rise in the cost of the force from Rs 10,65,259 to Rs. 12,39,970. The percentage of departmental punishments increased from 24·5 to 35. The total number of true cases, of cognizable crime excluding nuisances, etc., was 2,874 as against 2,950 in 1921. The value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 3,31,039 and that recovered to Rs. 1,25,184 or 38 per cent. The number of cases struck off as maliciously and wilfully false was 70 as against 94 in the previous year. Thirty persons were bound over under the security sections. The work of the Intelligence Department continued to be very heavy. Ten persons were prosecuted for seditious writings and speeches and 4 persons were bound over under section 108, Criminal Procedure Code. The arduous work entailed by the Prince's visit was accomplished in a manner that reflected much credit on the department.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1922)

[*Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1922 : Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, Judicial, etc.— Criminal Justice*]

General

90. On the 31st December 1922 there were in the Presidency 948 Criminal Courts, including the High Court, as against 960 at the end of the previous calendar year. In addition, the Subordinate Judges of Guntūr, Kurnool, Madura, Rāmnād, Salem, Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly exercised the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. The Special Tribunals under the Martial Law (Supplementary) Ordinance, presided over by Mr. Hughes, continued to the 23rd February and disposed of 11 cases involving 109 persons. In addition 85 cases involving 1,517 persons were transferred to the Special Magistrate for disposal. On the expiry of the Ordinance, Special Tribunals were set up under the Malabar (Restoration of Order) Ordinance, 1922, whereby the 3 Judges of the Special Tribunal were created Special Judges, each sitting separately to dispose of cases. These Special Judges during the year disposed of 253 cases involving 1,367 persons, of whom 215 were sentenced to death, 530 transported for life, 223 rigorously imprisoned, 248 discharged and 151 acquitted. The Special Tribunal disposed of 27 appeals and the Special Judges of 61 appeals. At the close of the year there were 91 Honorary Magistrates serving on the Madras City Benches which worked throughout the year. New Bench Courts were created in seven districts and three Bench Courts were abolished. In addition, 2,785 Village Magistrates and 527 Panchayat Courts exercised criminal jurisdiction. The number of Village Courts is a decrease on the figures for 1921.

Original cases

Village Courts

91. In the Village Magistrates' Courts the total number of cases instituted fell from 7,798 to 6,212, and the number of persons tried from 13,206 to 10,507. Of these 15·48 per cent were convicted as against 14·39 per cent in 1921. The proportion of convictions again varied greatly in various districts. In Tinnevelly, out of 2,994 persons tried, only 138 were convicted, while in the Nilgiris where only 13 persons were tried, all were convicted. Comment was made in last year's report on similar variations. The total number of cases instituted in the Panchayat Courts was 3,584 and the number of persons tried by those Courts was 4,924. At the end of the year 776 cases were pending. The percentage of conviction was 26·7. In the year under review new first-class Bench Courts were established at North Arcot, South Arcot and Guntūr. On the whole these first-class Bench Courts appear to have rendered considerable assistance in relieving stipendiary magistrates of unimportant cases, but as they normally try

Panchayat Courts

Bench Courts

only cases triable summarily by first-class Magistrates, these latter are scarcely relieved of any of their original criminal work. In a few districts, moreover, the Benches gave some cause for dissatisfaction on account of bickerings between Magistrates or their lack of interest in their work. In the Courts of Regular Magistrates in the mufassal, the number of cases instituted fell from 257,928 to 183,949 and the number of cases pending in those Courts at the end of the year from 6,833 to 5,393. The average duration of trial fell from 9·8 to 9 days. Before Sub-Magistrates the average duration of trial was 13 days, before Assistant Magistrates 15 days, before Joint Magistrates 36 days and before Deputy Magistrates 30 days. The system of fixing certain days of the week for the trial of police cases worked satisfactorily in various districts, but it is generally recognized that this system cannot be worked in the case of touring Magistrates. In the Courts of the Presidency Magistrates, the number of cases instituted increased from 27,521 to 31,036. The total number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in the mufassal fell from 2,154 to 1,876. The Courts to which the largest number of cases were committed were those of Coimbatore, Tinnevelly, Salem and Kurnool, while there was a marked increase in South Malabar, Rāmnād, South Arcot and Gōdāvari, and a marked decrease in the Agency, Coimbatore and Kistna. The total number of cases pending in all Sessions Courts at the end of the year was 171 against 151 at the end of 1921. The average duration of cases before Sessions Courts fell from 54 days to 49 days. The percentage of conviction in the various Courts ranges from 12·50 in Ganjām to 69·14 in the Agency tracts. The variations formed the subject of comment in the reports for the previous two years. The number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions was 32 as against 29 in the previous year. Two cases were pending at the end of the year.

Regular Magistrates

Presidency Magistrates

Sessions Courts

High Court

92. Of the persons sentenced by second and third class Magistrates, 11,861 appealed to first class Magistrates against 12,103 in 1921, and the number of persons whose appeals were pending at the end of the year fell from 1,104 to 847. The percentage of successful appellants was 34·94 as against 33·59 in 1921 and the average period which elapsed before the presentation of an appeal and its disposal in the Court of a Subdivisional Magistrate fell from 25 days to 24 days. The number of persons who appealed to Sessions Courts against the decisions of first class Magistrates was 2,177 against 2,276 in 1921. The number of persons whose appeals were pending at the end of the year was 231 as against 165 at the end of 1921. The average duration of appeals in the Sessions Court rose from 29 days to 33 days, and the percentage of successful appellants from 18·75 to 18·89. The number of appellants to the High Court was 3,728 against 1,450 in 1921, the increase being largely due to the Mappilla rebellion and consequent trials. The Government appealed against the acquittal of 46 persons as against 110 persons in the previous year and an average of 60 in the quinquennium. In the case of 11 out of these 46, the acquittal was upheld, in the case of 8 the acquittal was set aside and a conviction recorded, and in the case of 2 a new trial was directed. At the end of the year 25 were pending. The appeals of 11 persons were rejected *in limine*. Of the appeals by private persons, the finding and sentences were maintained after notice in the case of 2,815 individuals, in the case of 205, the sentences were reduced or otherwise altered and in the case of 150 the sentences were reversed. New trial or further inquiry was ordered in the case of 15 persons. The appeals of 570 persons were pending at the end of the year against 133 in 1921. The average duration of an appeal rose from 48 days to 50 days. The percentage of entirely successful appellants was 4·71 as against 5·79 in 1921.

Appeals

Magistrates

Sessions Courts

High Court

93. District Magistrates received 593 applications for revision as against 605 in 1921, and took up 24 cases *suo motu* or on reports from their Subdivisional Magistrates as against 15 in the previous year. In Sessions Courts 516 applications for revision were presented, or 62 less than in the previous year, and the number of cases taken up by them *suo motu* was 39 as against 26 in 1921. In the High Court 976 revision petitions were

Reference and revision

received, an increase of 161 on the figure for 1921. Of these 98 cases were reported by District Magistrates and Sessions Judges and 61 were taken up by the High Court, *suo motu*. Death sentences on 294 cases were referred to the High Court for confirmation, including those passed by the Special Judges, Malabar. In the case of 190 persons the conviction was upheld and the sentence confirmed. The sentence was commuted to transportation for life in the case of 44 persons and to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years in the case of 7. Thirty-seven persons had their convictions set aside and a new trial ordered. The number of persons whose sentences of death were confirmed is almost double that of the previous year. Four persons were reprieved by the Local Government.

Jury system

94. Of the 1,414 persons tried by jury, the verdict was approved in the case of 1,356 persons. In the case of 52 persons, the Judge considered the verdict sufficiently perverse to necessitate a reference to the High Court. Out of the cases referred to the High Court, the verdict of the jury was upheld in the case of 29 persons; in the case of 9 the verdict was modified and in the case of 17 the verdict was reversed. Of the latter one had been found "guilty" and 16 "not guilty" by the jury. The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors was 2,279. In the case of 1,438 persons, the Judges agreed with all the assessors, in the case of 394 he differed from one or more of them and in the case of 447 he differed from all the assessors.

Miscellaneous

95. The number of complaints rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, was 13,676 or 12·78 per cent of the cases for disposal under the Indian Penal Code. From the high percentage of cases ending in acquittal it would seem that neither this section nor section 250, Criminal Procedure Code, which was only enforced in the case of 1,524 persons as against 1,628 in 1921, was sufficiently employed. The percentage of convictions in cases tried under the Indian Penal Code was 40·20 as against 43·57 in the previous year. The number of cases reported under this Code fell from 102,696 to 100,124. The decrease in theft, robbery and dacoity is in many districts attributed to efficient work under the security sections and a rigorous use of the Criminal Tribes Act. On the other hand offences affecting public health, safety, convenience, decency and morals showed an increase of 904, and there was an increase of 749 under contempts of the lawful authority of public servants. There was a decrease in both the number of cases affecting life and in the number of

Punishments

persons convicted for such offences. The total number of sentences passed during the year was 210,147, of which 191 were of death, 220 of transportation, 3 of penal servitude, 20,768 of rigorous imprisonment, 4,951 of simple imprisonment, 42 of forfeiture of property, 183,162 of fine, and 810 of whipping. The amount of fines imposed was Rs. 12,23,144, of which sums amounting to Rs. 55,690 were paid to complainants as compensation. The number of convicted juvenile offenders was 1,958 boys and 379 girls. Of the 947 juveniles convicted under the Forest Act, 303 were girls. The amount disbursed by way of travelling allowance and batta to witnesses fell from Rs. 82,871 to Rs. 70,536, and there was also a decrease in the amount similarly paid to jurors and assessors.

PRISONS (1922)

[*Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1922; Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, Judicial, etc.—Jails*]

Accommodation

96. The number of Central, Special and District Jails remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 10, 2 and 4, respectively. Four temporary sub-jails were opened in the Malabar district,—the Huzur sub-jail at Calicut, the Cantonment and Fort sub-jails at Cannanore and the

Malappuram sub-jail—to accommodate a large number of Mappilla Rebellion prisoners undergoing trial. The sub-jail at Watrap in the Rāmnād district and at Mulki in the South Kanara district were closed. The number of sub-jails in consequence was 322 at the end of the year as against 320 at the beginning. There was overcrowding during the first half of the year in almost all the jails, which was relieved by the construction of additional temporary accommodation in five central jails and the opening of temporary sub-jails in the Malabar district. During the latter half of the year the population fell chiefly on account of the conditional release of a large number of Mappilla Rebellion prisoners and of the smaller number of such prisoners committed to jails.

Prisoners of all classes

97. The year opened with a population of 20,872 prisoners of all classes as against 15,459 last year. 151,699 were received and 148,223 were discharged leaving 24,348 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average number confined rose from 15,985·60 to 24,397·53. The increase was chiefly due to the admission of Mappilla Rebellion and Non-co-operation prisoners. The number of under-trial prisoners dealt with including those in confinement (4,715) at the beginning of the year was 76,813. The daily average was 5,134·90 as compared with 3,461·58 in 1921. Of the number confined 49·99 per cent were convicted, 49·08 per cent were acquitted and released, 25 escaped and 291 died. Prisoners awaiting trial before Sessions Courts were detained on an average for 30·50 days while those pending trial before Magistrates were detained for 19·40 days. At the beginning of the year 559 civil prisoners were in custody and 3,717 were admitted during the year. 3,444 were released, 21 died and 102 were transferred leaving 709 at the close of the year. The daily average was 484·35 as compared with 351·33 in the previous year. There were no State prisoners confined at the beginning of the year but 104 were admitted during the year. Of these, 14 died and 90 remained at the end of the year. With the exception of one Agency prisoner, all of those admitted were Mappillas concerned in the Malabar Rebellion.

Under-trial prisoners

Civil prisoners

State prisoners

Convicts

98. The convict population on the 1st January 1922 stood at 15,356 males and 242 females. The direct admissions during the year numbered 31,830 males and 1,079 females as compared with 29,258 males and 1,190 females in 1921. There were 42,975 convicts received by transfer as compared with 32,724 in the previous year. Of those discharged during the year, 3,148 were released on appeal, 19,130 on expiry of sentence, 3,647 under the remission rules, and 1,131 by order of Government. 1,277 convicts were deported to the Andamans, 42 were transferred to the Lunatic Asylum, Madras, 10 escaped and remained at large at the end of the year, 227 were executed and 918 died. The number remaining at the end of the year was 19,552 or 3,954 more than in the previous year. The daily average convict population was 18,778·28 or 6,605·59 more than in the preceding year. The great bulk of the admissions were Hindus who formed 68·02 per cent, Muhammadans (29·59 per cent) and Christians (2·39 per cent) contributing to the remainder. The number of persons convicted under 16 years of age and the number of youthful offenders decreased from 145 and 48 to 104 and 25 respectively. Twelve were transferred to the Reformatory School, Chingleput, three (2 boys and 1 girl) were released on expiry of sentence, one was released under the orders of Government, two were released on bail, and 7 boys remained in confinement at the close of the year. There were at the beginning of the year 329 inmates in the Tanjore Borstal institution, of whom 253 were between 15 and 21 years and 76 between 21 and 23 years of age. Twenty-eight were committed direct to the institution, 377 were received by transfer from other jails and 376 were discharged, leaving 358 inmates at the end of the year. As the accommodation at Tanjore was not sufficient for all the Mappilla adolescents committed to jail during the year, arrangements were made to vacate a portion of the Palamcottah District Jail and to concentrate Mappilla adolescents there under a modified Borstal course of training. The scheme has worked admirably. The instruction imparted to the

Juveniles

inmates at Tanjore was the same as in the previous year. The star class system was introduced, and is working satisfactorily. Seventy-four inmates were conditionally released during the year, of whom 61 were adolescents concerned in the Mappilla rebellion. Of the remaining 13, twelve were placed under the charge of suitable probation officers willing to take charge of them and find them employment.

Conduct

99. The conduct of the prisoners was, on the whole, good. There were 27 escapes during the year, of which 20 were from Central and District Jails and 7 from sub-jails as compared with 56 and 9 respectively in the previous year. Seventeen out of the 27 who escaped and four of those who escaped in previous years were recaptured during the year. The number of jail offences dealt with by Superintendents fell from 4,863 to 4,829. Ninety-six offences were dealt with by criminal courts as against 15 in the previous year, the increase being due to prisoners concerned in the escape from the Trichinopoly Central Jail in May 1921 and those charged for participating in the jail riot at Cannanore in December 1921 having been tried by criminal courts during the year. There was a slight increase in the number of punishments, viz., 4,939 as compared with 4,910 in 1921, but the ratio per cent of punishments to average strength fell from 40·34 to 26·30. Several Non-co-operation prisoners indulged in hunger striking during the year as a protest against authority. Such strikes quickly collapsed when firmly dealt with. Corporal punishment was inflicted on five prisoners during the year as against four in the previous year. The total number of habituals dealt with was 7,481 forming 18·85 per cent of the convict population. They received no less than 1,686 of the total number of punishments and two out of the five whippings. The number of convicts released under the Remission Rules rose from 3,534 to 3,647. Special remission for continuous good conduct for one year was awarded to 3,331 convicts against 2,244 in the previous year. Extra remission for work turned out over and above the prescribed task was earned by 1,049 convicts, the corresponding number in the previous year being 648. No convict preferred gratuity in lieu of remission, for increased out-turn of work. Elementary education was compulsorily imparted in all jails to prisoners under 30 years of age, by the paid teaching staff. Lectures on moral and religious subjects were delivered by honorary lecturers appointed for the purpose and by senior members of the jail staff. The Medical staff attached to jails delivered lectures on the benefits of health and sanitation. The jail schools were regularly visited by officers of the Education department and their reports were encouraging. Technical instruction was given to convicts employed in the various industrial departments. The scheme of employing literate convicts to read aloud to other prisoners after lock-up till 8 p.m. or later in Association blocks proved successful. The Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society did useful work during the year in developing the activities of local committees and improving the organization of the Central Society. Two new District Committees were formed. A home has recently been started in Madras, where deserving prisoners who have nowhere to go to on release are temporarily sheltered and fed.

Habituals

Remission

Education

Vital statistics

100. The health statistics of the year were very unfavourable and entirely due to the influx of thousands of Mappilla rebels from the Malabar jungles. The majority of these people were riddled with disease chiefly ankylostomiasis and dysentery. Admissions to hospital rose from 6,991 to 14,959 and the average daily number of sick increased from 274·03 to 742·70. There were 1,230 deaths during the year as compared with 339 in 1921, the ratio per mille being 50·41 against 21·21 in the previous year. Of the 1,230 deaths no less than 1,011 are attributable to the Mappillas, the ratio per mille for prisoners other than Mappillas working out at 15·28. Cholera accounted for 34 deaths. Influenza continued to prevail in epidemic form during the year and caused no less than 108 deaths. There were four accidental deaths, one suicide and one death by gunshot wound, the other deaths being chiefly due to dysentery, pneumonia, pulmonary

tuberculosis, enteritis, etc. The majority of jails have to depend upon wells for their water-supply and all wells are periodically cleaned and hankinized. Drinking water is sterilized by chlorination and an automatic drip system of chlorination has been instituted at Coimbatore which has proved so successful that other jails have been advised to adopt it. At Vellore, a kite motion pump was obtained and fitted to a well situated outside the jail. The installation of an oil-engine at the Coimbatore Central Jail was carried out during the year and the well supply linked up with the jail. At Cannanore a duplicating pumping plant was provided and an engine shed constructed. The provision of pumps for the oil-engines attached to the two wells in the Central Jail, Salem, is in progress. The piped water distribution scheme within the Jail at Alipuram was improved during the year. At Madura, two cisterns for chlorinating water for drinking purposes were constructed and at Berhampore the piped distribution of the municipal water-supply within the jail was completed. New flyproof modern kitchens were constructed in the Central Jails at Rajahmundry, Vellore and Bellary. At Tanjore, the range in the main kitchen was reconstructed. The Civil Debtors kitchen in the District Jail, Cuddalore, was made flyproof. Flyproof cooling and vegetable cutting rooms were provided in the Alipuram Jail as annexes to the main kitchen. Several improvements were carried out to the kitchen in the Central Jail, Cannanore, and a covered passage provided for convenience during the monsoon. Large double chambered model destructors were erected for night-soil disposal in the jails at Rajahmundry, Coimbatore, Salem and Alipuram. Smaller single chambered destructors for hospital and quarantine purposes were built at Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Salem and Cuddalore. Additional sanitary latrines were constructed during the year in 7 jails and cage or night latrines were fixed to several of the association blocks in 5 jails. Latrines were made flyproof in the Cuddalore and Berhampore District Jails and the flyproofing of latrines in the Central Jail, Salem, was in progress at the end of the year. Ejector trucks were fitted to the female enclosures of the Rajahmundry and Cannanore Central Jails. A septic tank for dealing with sullage water was constructed in the Tanjore Borstal Institution and provided with side cistern and drains. Sanitary dhoby ghats with boilers were constructed in the Vellore, Trichinopoly, Cannanore, Salem, Palamcottah and Madura Jails and at the Penitentiary, Madras. Thresh steam disinfectors were supplied to the Jails at Rajahmundry, Vellore, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Cannanore, Salem and Alipuram. At the Penitentiary, Madras, the bathing platforms in the convict warders block and close prison were provided with cubicles to permit of bathing in privacy. The annexes providing accommodation for 2,202 excess prisoners in connexion with the Jails at Coimbatore, Vellore, Trichinopoly, Cannanore and Salem were built and arranged on up to date lines. Several sanitary improvements to the hospital and other buildings were carried out in other jails.

Sanitation

101. The total expenditure excluding the outlay on jail buildings by the Public Works Department amounted to Rs. 37,91,147 or Rs. 10,93,615 over that of the previous year and was due to increased expenditure under all heads except "Manufactures." The increase in the convict population consequent on the influx of Mappilla Rebellion and Non-co-operation prisoners, the high rates paid for ration articles, the abnormal increase in the sick rate and the provision of bedding and clothing to those newly admitted, added to the necessity for engaging additional establishment tended to swell the total expenditure. The cash earnings amounted to Rs. 3,27,285 as compared with Rs. 3,43,799 for the year 1921. This decline is chiefly due to lack of orders from the consuming departments. The total expenditure on jail and sub-jail buildings including the office of the Inspector-General amounted to Rs. 3,81,019 during the year as compared with Rs. 2,61,362 in the preceding year. The increase is chiefly due to the construction of annexes in certain jails and to the opening of new sub-jails in the Malabar district.

Finance

102. Seven hundred and twenty-seven visits were paid during the year by official and non-official visitors against 509 in the previous year. His Excellency the Governor of Madras visited the District Jail at Berhampore. The Hon'ble Mr. Knapp and Col. J. P. Cameron (Inspector-General of Prisons) attended a conference at Simla in the month of July, convened by the Government of India, the outcome of which was the creation of a special division for the treatment of certain prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment.

CIVIL JUSTICE (1922)

[*Statistics of Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1922; Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, Judicial, etc.—Civil Justice*]

General

103. The total number of permanent Courts which exercised civil jurisdiction during the year was one less than in 1921. There were in addition 18 Temporary Subordinate Judges' Courts and 17 Temporary District Munsifs' Courts.

Litigation

104. The total number of suits instituted in the Presidency during 1922 was 530,538 against 496,244 in 1921. In the Presidency as a whole, one suit was instituted for every 80 persons of the population, while the ratio for the Presidency town was one suit for every 30 persons. The number of suits instituted for money or moveable property was 463,426 or 95·4 per cent of the total as compared with 89·1 per cent in the previous year. Suits for immoveable property, other than mortgage suits, numbered 19,779 against 21,377 in 1921, and those instituted in Revenue Courts amounted to 18,708 against 24,351. The number of mortgage suits was 22,485 against 23,508 and of suits for specific relief 4,160 against 5,117. The total value of suits instituted during the year in Courts other than Village, Panchayat and Revenue Courts and unpaid tribunals was Rs. 11,60,07,173 or Rs. 2,02,87,081 less than in the previous year. This may have been due to the increase in Court fees which would tend to discourage parties from over-valuing the relief sought. The average value of a suit was Rs. 371 against Rs. 398 in 1921. Apart from Revenue Courts but including Village and Panchayat Courts 28·43 per cent of the suits instituted were of the value of Rs. 20 and less against 24·19 per cent in the previous year, and 65·67 per cent of the suits were between the values of Rs. 20 and Rs. 500. The number of suits above Rs. 500 was 29,464 as compared with 32,112 in 1921. Suits triable by Village Courts but filed before higher tribunals numbered 82,243, a decrease of 11,986. Plaintiffs obtained the whole or part of the relief claimed by them in 78·15 per cent of the suits disposed of during the year exclusive of compromised suits and those disposed of without trial. In 72·16 per cent of contested suits the plaintiffs obtained a decree for the whole or part of the relief sought. The total number of appeals preferred was 15,705—a decrease of 101 from the number filed in 1921.

Original jurisdiction

Village Courts

Revenue Courts

105. The number of suits instituted in Village Courts including Bench Courts but excluding Panchayat Courts fell from 108,234 to 99,545. The decrease was due to the opening of Panchayat Courts in which the number of suits filed increased from 19,157 to 99,569 and the disposals from 16,266 to 89,512. The number of suits filed in Revenue Courts other than in Agency tracts, fell from 24,229 in 1921 to 18,579 and disposals also decreased from 28,267 to 17,173. The average duration of uncontested suits was 90 days and of contested suits 231 days as compared with 118 days and 279 days respectively in the previous year. The percentage of appeals preferred to the total number of appealable decrees rose from 11·32 to 12·25 while the percentage of confirmation of original decrees was 34·18 as against 40·94 in 1921.

Agency Courts

The number of suits instituted in Agency Courts was 1,526 against 1,538 in the previous year. Fourteen hundred

and sixty-eight suits were disposed of and 480 were left pending at the end of the year. The number of ordinary suits instituted in District Munsifs' Courts other than those in Agency tracts fell from 113,416 to 106,184. The decrease was probably caused by the enhancement of Court-fees. The number of disposals was 4,525 less than in 1921, but owing to the fall in institutions the number of suits pending at the end of the year fell from 60,076 to 52,559. There was also a decrease of 951 in the number of suits pending for over a year. The average duration of contested ordinary suits increased from 338 days to 345 and that of uncontested ordinary suits from 62 to 63 days. The average duration of contested small cause suits was 93 days against 88 days in 1921. The percentage of appeals to appealable decrees was 10·52 against 10·09, and the percentage of appeals in which original decrees were confirmed increased from 59·59 of the total number decided to 61·04. In the special Small Cause Courts 19,207 small cause suits were filed during the year against 17,025 in the previous year. The increase is due to the fact that the Tanjore Special Small Cause Court worked for a full year against four months in 1921. The average duration of contested and uncontested small cause suits was 133 and 42 days respectively against 94 and 32 days last year. The number of suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' Courts in the year was 3,058 against 3,506 in 1921. Disposals increased from 3,568 to 3,748 and pendency decreased from 4,420 to 4,159. The number of suits over one year old, however, rose from 1,793 to 2,046. The average duration of contested original suits was 541 against 520 days and that of uncontested suits 100 days against 84 days in 1921. The average duration of contested Small Cause Suits rose to 155 days from 148 days. In the District Courts, excluding the Court of the Agency Commissioner, 532 ordinary suits were filed. Disposals, owing to a decrease in criminal work, increased from 288 to 391, but pendency also rose from 548 to 625. The number of suits pending for over one year was 203 against 148 in 1921. The average duration of contested original suits was 510 days against 479 days in the previous year. In the Madras City Civil Court 553 suits were instituted against 661 in 1921; the number of disposals rose from 607 to 688 while arrears decreased from 473 to 362. The average duration increased from 262 to 332 days for contested suits and from 52 to 57 days for uncontested suits. In the Presidency Court of Small Causes the number of suits filed increased from 15,359 in 1921 to 15,942 in 1922 and the number of disposals from 14,316 to 15,352. Arrears also rose from 2,505 to 3,107. The average duration of contested suits was 107 days against 77 days and that of uncontested suits was 43 days against 41 days in the previous year. Eleven hundred and five suits were filed in the High Court against 1,170 in 1921. Disposals increased from 1,033 to 1,073 and arrears from 1,229 to 1,306. The average duration of contested suits was 432 against 420 days and of uncontested suits 160 days against 152 days in the previous year.

District Munsifs' Courts

Special Small Cause Courts

Subordinate Judges' Courts

District Courts

City Civil Court

Presidency Small Cause Court

The High Court

106. Appeals filed in Agency tracts rose from 60 in 1921 to 79 in 1922; disposals amounted to 73 and 19 were left pending at the end of the year. The average duration of appeals was 141 days against 64 days in 1921. The percentage of confirmation was 32·39 against 44·57. In District and Subordinate Judges' Courts the number of appeals fell from 13,127 to 12,548. Disposals by Subordinate Judges decreased from 7,054 to 5,946 and arrears from 3,462 to 2,928. The average duration of contested appeals was 353 days and that of uncontested appeals 260 days. District Judges disposed of 4,924 appeals as against 5,546 in the previous year; arrears increased from 8,167 to 9,108. The average time taken to dispose of a contested appeal was 377 and of an uncontested appeal 278 days. The number of appeals from original decrees of mufassal courts filed in the High Court was 462 against 370 in 1921. The number disposed of was 212 against 259; arrears rose from 661 to 911. Appeals against orders of mufassal courts numbered 471 against 456. Two hundred and eighty were disposed of and 511 were pending at the end of the year. The number of appeals filed against decrees passed on the

Appellate Courts

Agency Courts

District and Sub-Courts

High Court

Original Side of the High Court was 124. Disposals amounted to 128 against 65 in the previous year and arrears fell from 142 to 138. The number of appeals from decrees of the City Civil Court was 68. Eighty-two of such appeals were disposed of during the year and 87 were left pending. The average duration of all these classes of appeals was 463 days. The number of Letters Patent Appeals (other than Original Side Appeals) filed was 29 and the number disposed of 34. Appeals against appellate decrees increased from 1,484 to 1,831, but disposals fell from 1,779 to 933. The number of appeals filed against appellate orders was 118 against 115 in 1921. The number disposed of was 133 against 184 and arrears fell from 156 to 141. The average duration of second appeals was 646 days compared with 457 days in the previous year. The increase was due to the disposal of some old appeals remanded from the Privy Council. Nine hundred and forty-three revision petitions were filed—432 of which were for the revision of decisions in small cause suits. The number of disposals increased from 825 to 909 and the number of arrears from 962 to 996. Of the total number of petitions disposed of 70·41 per cent were dismissed. The number of cases referred by lower courts and by the Board of Revenue was 24. Twenty of such cases were disposed of during the year and 19 left pending.

Miscellaneous

107. The total number of applications for execution received in all mufassal courts, except village courts, was 333,945 against 336,998 in 1921. The number of applications disposed of in all the courts was 335,796, and 51,003 were left pending at the end of the year as compared with 50,752 at the end of 1921. Satisfaction in full was obtained in 16·68 per cent of the applications disposed of against 16·56 per cent in the previous year. Satisfaction in part was obtained in 7·60 per cent of the applications received, the percentage last year being 7·19. The total number of debtors imprisoned in execution increased from 2,598 to 2,932. In mufassal Courts other than Village Courts 2,937,442 processes were executed of which 333,772 were executed by Amins and the remainder by peons. At the end of the year there were on the rolls of the High Court 217 advocates, 1,972 vakils and 61 attorneys, and in the mufassal Courts there were 2,837 first-grade and 1,326 second-grade pleaders.

Finance

108. The total receipts of Civil and Criminal Courts in the Presidency during 1922 amounted to Rs. 1,41,86,592 and the charges to Rs. 95,42,763 leaving a surplus of Rs. 46,43,829. Criminal Justice does not and cannot be expected to pay its way and the surplus relates entirely to Civil Justice—the profit on which, excluding expenditure on pensions and buildings, may be estimated at Rs. 50 lakhs.

REGISTRATION (1922) AND COMPANIES (1922–23)

[*G.Os. No. 93-A, Law (Registration), dated the 24th July 1923, and No. 1706, Law (General), dated the 7th July 1923; Statistics of British India, Vol. I, Commercial, and Vol. IV, Administrative, Judicial, etc.—Joint Stock Companies—Registration*]

Registration

Administrative changes

109. There was no change in the number of district charges and of District Registrars which was 29 and 32, respectively. In accordance with a resolution brought forward in the Madras Legislative Council, the post of the Inspector of Registration Offices was kept vacant from April 1922. On account of financial stringency due to large deficits in the provincial budget, the opening of new offices could not keep pace with the normal expansion of the department and, as a result, only four new permanent offices were opened namely those at Karivalamvandanallūr, Mel-Nilidanallūr, Alangulam and Panaikkudi (Tinnevelly district). An additional joint sub-registrar for the Registrar's office, Vellore (North Arcot) was sanctioned as a temporary measure for one year from

1st August 1922, and the itinerating system was introduced to meet the convenience of the registering public by which one of the joint sub-registrars was to hold his office at a village named Kannamangalam on the first working day in every week and register documents relating to the villages in the vicinity. A new office which was opened at Tyagadurgam (Cuddalore district) as an experimental measure for one year from 1st October 1921 has been made permanent. At Salem the office of the Joint Sub-Registrar III was amalgamated with the Registrar's office. On account of the destruction of some of the offices during the Mappilla rebellion, the sub-offices of Vandur and Arikkod (Calicut) were amalgamated as a temporary measure with that of Manjeri and the sub-office of Kalpakancheri (Calicut) became merged in that of Tirur. As a result of the above changes, the number of separate sub-offices including ex-officio and temporary offices continued to be the same as in the previous year, viz., 517. The number of sub-registrars attached to the Inspector-General's office as clerks was reduced from 10 to 7 in pursuance of the demand for retrenchment. The number of sub-registrars including the joint sub-registrars attached to Registrar's offices and temporary sub-registrars rose from 576 to 578. The convenience of the public was promoted by the re-adjustments of the jurisdiction of the existing sub-districts in ten districts. Registrations declined from 1,420,132 to 1,374,026 or by 3·25 per cent, the decrease occurring in all districts except Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari, Erode, Guntūr, Kistna and Salem, which showed an increase of 1,818, 960, 2,823, 1,209, 337, 1,364, 247, 5,852, 3,995 and 1,394, respectively. The decrease was largest (10,771) in Calicut district as a result of the Mappilla riots. Except sales (higher) affecting immoveable property, gifts and leases compulsory, all other classes of documents showed a decrease. The aggregate value of documents declined by 1·06 per cent while the average value of documents affecting immoveable property rose from Rs. 432 to Rs. 444 and of those affecting moveable property declined from Rs. 622 to Rs. 592. The average registration fee increased from Rs. 1-11-5 to Rs. 2-2-6 in consequence of the enhancement in the scale of registration fees with effect from 1st March 1922. Applications for encumbrance certificates increased from 53,911 to 63,149 and those for copies rose from 121,693 to 121,787. Documents presented by or on behalf of co-operative societies decreased from 30,395 to 27,845 and searches rose from 4,157 to 5,852, the fees foregone being Rs 1,09,450 against Rs. 86,681. Nine cases of prosecution under the Indian Registration Act were pending at the commencement of the year and nine were instituted in the year. Of these, eight ended in conviction and two in acquittal, leaving eight pending. Consequent on the enhancement in the scale of the registration fees with effect from 1st March 1922, the income from fees on registrations rose from Rs. 24·24 lakhs to Rs. 29·60 lakhs and other receipts including fees for searches and copies rose from Rs. 6·30 lakhs to Rs. 6·81 lakhs. The total income rose from Rs. 30·54 lakhs to Rs. 36·46 lakhs. The expenditure in the department fell from Rs. 25·13 lakhs to Rs. 24·38 lakhs.

Registrations

Value of transactions

Searches and copies

Co-operative societies

Prosecutions

Finance

110. The number of companies at work during the year rose from 645 in 1921–22 to 706. Of these 634 possessed share capital and 72 were without. One hundred and one new companies were registered as against 118 in the previous year and 40 companies ceased to work as against 48 in 1921–22. The fall in the number of new companies was, however, counterbalanced by the increase in the authorized, subscribed and paid-up capital from 265, 41 and 28 lakhs, respectively, to 307, 47 and 30 lakhs, respectively. The new registrations comprise 93 Indian, 5 European and 3 joint concerns. Of all the firms working, banking and loan companies formed the largest group numerically, the next below it being the trading and industrial group. If however the authorized capital were taken into account, the position would be reversed. Among the new companies floated during the year was a spinning, weaving and dyeing company at Madura; a company to acquire the business of the Oriental Telephone Company, Limited, of England; a film company; an electric supply company at

Registered Companies

The Indian Companies Act, 1913

Bellary, and a state quarrying company in Kurnool. Forty companies with an authorized capital of Rs. 64·22 lakhs and a paid-up capital of Rs. 16·69 lakhs went into voluntary or compulsory liquidation during the year. The majority of these were boom companies and had had a life of less than 4 years. It is hoped that the State Aid to Industries Act will, by distinguishing one concern from another, assist in the weeding out of doubtful ventures. The paid-up capital of planting companies and mills and presses bears highest proportion to the total paid-up capital invested in all businesses. The proportion of paid-up capital belonging to banking and loan companies is the lowest, the reason for this being the preponderance of nidhis and small chit associations. The Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Limited, have the highest paid-up capital (Rs. 110·48 lakhs). The number of companies incorporated outside British India having a place of business in this Presidency increased from 148 to 159; of the total, 62 are insurance companies and 56 are trading concerns. Under the former will be found one new company incorporated in Germany. The number of certificated auditors rose from 34 to 36. Eight prosecutions were instituted during the year and of the five cases actually tried, three convictions were obtained. Owing to the decrease in the number of new registrations, the receipts fell from Rs. 33,346 to Rs. 32,634. The revenue from the sale of forms increased from Rs. 263 to Rs. 350 which indicates their growing popularity. The expenditure (including that incurred on account of the ex-officio staff) increased from Rs. 30,514 to Rs. 33,127. One new provident insurance society was registered, bringing the total number of sub-societies in existence to 13. One society was found on inspection to be in a bad condition and as a result it went into voluntary liquidation. The condition of three other societies in Madras left much to be desired. In addition to the seven existing life assurance companies a Mysore company established a place of business in this Presidency.

Provident insurance societies and life assurance companies

Notaries Public (1922-23)

111. The number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public rose from 195 to 196 on account of the re-constitution of the Vandur sub-registry office (Calicut district) which was destroyed during the Mappilla rebellion. Operations were confined to 29 stations as against 23 in the previous year. The total number of transactions fell from 249 to 160 with an aggregate value of Rs. 2,27,067 as against Rs. 5,34,472 in the previous year. The decline in the total number of documents dealt with occurred in all the districts except Calicut, Tellicherry and Trichinopoly and was due to the general slackness of trade and stringency of the money market. The increase in Calicut was attributed to the fluctuations in the piece-goods trade and the failure of some of the new constituents of the Imperial Bank of India. The increases in Tellicherry and Trichinopoly districts were due to the failure of the merchants to meet the demands on account of the tightness of the money market. Fees realized amounted to Rs. 634–8–0 as against Rs. 972–7–0 in 1921–22 and a sum of Rs. 46 was expended by Notary Public against Rs. 44–14–0 in the previous year. Rs. 582–8–0 were remitted to the treasury during the official year leaving a balance of Rs. 6 to be remitted in current year. No office of a Notary Public was inspected during the year by District Judges under rule 4 of the Notarial Rules.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1st July 1922 to 30th June 1923)

[*Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1922-23; Statistics of British India, Vol. II, Financial Statistics, Part I, Co-operative Societies*]

General

112. At the end of the year there were 22 Assistant Registrars in charge of independent sections. In addition to these there was a Co-operative Assistant to the Agency Commissioner in charge of the Agency division. Thirteen gentlemen were appointed Honorary Assistant Registrars in addition to the 61 Honorary Assistant Registrars on the list on 30th June 1922. Thirty-seven local supervising unions and one district federation of unions were registered during the year. These district federations of unions exercise, in addition to their federal functions, supervision over those primary societies within their areas which are not affiliated to any union. The total number of primary societies affiliated to supervising unions on 30th June 1923 was 6,514 with 374,340 members as against 5,494 societies with 328,377 members on 30th June 1922. The formation of supervising unions and the affiliation of primary societies thereto is keeping pace with the formation of primary societies. Two propagandist unions were in existence during the year, one at Madras and the other at Masulipatam. There has been a decrease in both joint sale and joint trading while transactions under joint purchase increased by Rs. 0·15 lakh. As yet no satisfactory system of joint sale has been instituted. Trading unions did not on the whole work well. The year opened with 7,389 societies of all descriptions and closed with a total of 8,443, in spite of the fact that the work of weeding out bad societies was continued. The number of societies cancelled during the year was 69 as compared with 69 and 36 in the two previous years. A great deal of time and attention was devoted to the reconstitution of societies which were working badly and to the stimulation of activity in societies which were becoming dormant. The available facilities for organization being constant, this resulted in less attention being given to the formation of new societies and the work of consolidating existing societies was accompanied by some conservatism in registration. Another cause of this conservatism was that while official supervision was fully occupied, efficient non-official supervision has not yet had time to expand to its full extent. At the end of the year there was an average of 65 members to a society, one more than the average for the last day of the previous year. During the year the total working capital of all societies increased from Rs. 601·11 lakhs to Rs. 711·59 lakhs and the total paid-up share capital from Rs. 79·86 lakhs to Rs. 95·42 lakhs. Deposits received from individuals rose from Rs. 206·14 lakhs to Rs. 253·71 lakhs. Excluding the sum representing investments by one co-operative bank in another, the total capital employed in the movement at the end of the year was Rs. 359 lakhs. Of this amount Rs. 253·71 lakhs were derived from deposits from individuals, chiefly non-members. The share capital invested by individuals accounted for Rs. 76·34 lakhs, reserve funds of the societies for Rs. 26·04 lakhs and Government loan for Rs. 2·90 lakhs. The fact that such a large proportion of the money came from outside the societies shows the confidence of the general public in the soundness of the movement. During the year building societies were formed and financed by loans from the Government. Efforts were made to organize certain local industries on co-operative lines, but little result was achieved. After some inquiry and discussion the suggestion to organize the Ellore carpet weavers on such lines had to be abandoned. The social and economic condition of these weavers, their habits and indebtedness to the master weavers and merchants, their illiteracy and indifference to co-operation makes it an impossible problem for the present. The finances available for the co-operation movement were greatly augmented by the receipt of a large sum of deposits from District Board and Municipal funds, by contractors' deposits, and by provident funds of Local Board

employees. This influx of money largely contributed to a considerable surplus in the Madras Central Urban Bank and the Christian Central Co-operative Bank. Out of 1,777 applications for the registration of societies considered during the year, 339 were rejected. This large number of rejections is, in a large measure, due to the fact that a number of poor men's societies which were placed on probation before formal registration were shown as rejected. The cost of working of the Co-operative Societies Act during the year was Rs. 6,19,254. This represents 0·87 of the working capital of the societies as against 0·98 in the previous year. The number of agricultural credit societies increased during the year by 894 to 7,100, of which all but 24 are on the unlimited liability basis. The total number of members of agricultural societies of all classes increased during the year from 333,342 to 386,264. There has been a substantial increase under the head of Ādi-Dravidas and Ādi-Āndhras during the year which is itself sufficient proof that the movement has progressed well amongst the depressed classes. During the year the total working capital of all agricultural credit societies increased from Rs. 2,22,92,429 to Rs. 2,65,39,957 and the paid-up share capital from Rs. 23,11,104 to Rs. 28,74,138. Deposits made by individuals rose from Rs. 14,67,288 to Rs. 15,53,087. Loans from financing banks increased from Rs. 1,73,05,524 to Rs. 2,04,91,263 There was a substantial increase in share capital in almost all districts. The total divisible profit earned by the societies during the year amounted to Rs. 4,06,067 as compared with Rs. 3,37,657 in the previous year. There is an increase all round in the overdues as compared with the previous year except arrear interest, where there is a slight fall. Though the great bulk of outstandings are amply secured, the credit of the movement and its power to attract deposits depend to a great extent on the promptitude with which repayments are made and the steady rise in the proportion of overdue amounts through the last 4 years cannot be regarded with satisfaction. Among the causes which contribute to this state of affairs are the practice of some ryots of taking short-term loans with the intention of delaying payment; their making a bad season an excuse for delaying repayment even when repayment is practicable; delay in obtaining execution of decrees through Civil Courts; the time fixed for repayment of loans given to societies being inconvenient; the lingering reluctance of the ryot inherited from generation of ancestors to pay until pressure is brought to bear. The remedy is, of course, supervision, but the unions have not as yet reached the state of active efficiency in which they can replace the officials who must now, and can only to a limited extent, provide the driving power necessary to maintain collection work at a high standard. There is a decrease in the percentage of loans for the purchase of cattle and for the purchase and improvement of land. There is a marked increase in the proportion of loans for cultivation expenses and a slight increase in the proportion of loans for the purchase of raw materials for industries. There were seventy-seven societies constituted for purchase, and purchase and sale, at the end of the year, two more than at the beginning. Out of these societies, 32 societies worked at a divisible profit of Rs. 12,793 and 45 societies incurred a loss of Rs. 17,609. There were no agricultural societies for production. There were 4 societies for production and sale at the end of the year, of which three worked at a net divisible profit of Rs. 2,083 and one at a loss of Rs. 8,220. Joint purchase and sale to an extent of Rs. 1,76,450 and Rs. 33,788, respectively, were effected by agricultural credit societies. The number of non-agricultural credit societies at the beginning of the year was 694 and at the end of the year, 805 societies. Thus there was a net increase of 111 such societies during the year. One hundred and fifteen new societies were registered during the year as against 89 in the previous year and the cancellation of eight societies was ordered during the year. There were also a few transfers of existing societies to and from this class. Of the 805 societies, 632 are on the limited liability basis and 173 on the unlimited liability basis. The number of members in these societies rose from 103,948 to 120,588 and the paid-up share capital from Rs. 22,49,746 to Rs. 27,63,114. The deposits from individuals rose from Rs. 41,58,325 to

Agricultural societies

Non-agricultural societies

Rs. 51,01,668 and the working capital from Rs. 78,60,233 to Rs. 98,08,990. As will be seen from the above, there has been substantial increase all round. The net divisible profit for the year was Rs. 3,84,692 as against Rs. 2,76,565 in the previous year. The loss to be recouped in this class of societies is Rs. 7,060 as compared with Rs. 14,814 for the previous year. The book profit in these societies amounted to Rs. 4,13,808. The percentage of arrears under arrear interest has been considerably reduced and there was a slight improvement over last year under collection of current interest and principal. The increase in deposits by individuals in the older societies was Rs. 9,11,178 as compared with Rs. 8,03,707 for the previous year and the increase in share capital in them was Rs. 4,54,928 as compared with Rs. 3,66,824 for the previous year. This shows that older societies are growing in a healthy fashion. Several of the urban banks which are included in this section have grown to a considerable size and during the year there have been discussions on the desirability of organizing more such banks in one place and limiting the size of each. At the beginning of the year there were 136 societies for the purchase, and purchase and sale or for the production, and production and sale of commodities. Thirteen societies were registered and the cancellation of twenty were ordered during the year. Two societies were transferred from this class. Thus there were 127 societies at the end of the year. The number of co-operative stores fell from 91 to 85. The value of stock sold fell from Rs. 16,25,467 to Rs. 14,32,729 and the value of stock bought fell from Rs. 15,41,870 to Rs. 13,08,122. The working capital also fell from Rs. 6,11,453 to Rs. 5,55,826. The net divisible profit rose from Rs. 42,676 to Rs. 46,726 and the net loss incurred by certain societies amounted to Rs. 20,458 as compared with Rs. 31,910 for the previous year. At the end of the year there were 34 societies belonging to classes other than those to which reference has already been made. Eighteen of these were building societies and nine were labour societies ; one of these latter, newly started during the year under review, was started with the object of obtaining contracts from the Forest department for felling coupes and includes cartmen and two outsiders to assist in the management. Labour unions were started in Tanjore having for their objects the supply of metal and gravel to district board and municipal roads. Three printing presses continue to run satisfactorily. The wages earned by the Madras Salt Loader's Society for labour done on contract amounted to Rs. 21,062. The Saidapet Milk Supply Society supplied milk to its members to the extent of Rs. 722. At the end of the year there were 904 societies composed wholly or mainly of Ādi-Drāvidas or Ādi-Āndhras ; of these 457 were organized by, and are in charge of the Labour Department. The total number of Ādi-Drāvidas or Ādi-Āndhra members of societies of all classes increased from 42,891 to 52,856 during the year. Three new societies for municipal scavengers and sweepers were registered during the year. The total number of such societies at the end of the year was 32. Besides these, there are 34 other societies for municipal employees which admit scavengers and sweepers as members.

Miscellaneous societies

113. There were 209 supervising unions at the beginning of the year, and 247 at its close, excluding the two propagandist unions. The amount contributed by societies for their own supervision is steadily increasing. There was an increase in the number of suits filed, free recourse being had in some districts to the recently established Village Panchayat Courts. There was another large increase in arbitration references due to the continuance of systematic overhauling of bad societies. In spite of the amendments to the Co-operative Societies Act providing for the recovery of the assets of liquidated societies and of the cost of liquidation proceedings as if they were arrears of land revenue, the rate at which liquidation proceedings were carried through was still found to be slow. A Provincial Co-operative Congress was held in Madras in December 1922 and there were six district conferences, at two of which the Honourable the Minister for Development was present. The attitude of the public continues to be very cordial.

Miscellaneous

LOCAL BOARD ADMINISTRATION (1922-23)

[*Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Local Self-Government—District and Sub-District Boards*]

General

Constitution and strength

District boards

Taluk boards

Union boards

114. The number of district boards remained the same (24) and the total number of the members sitting on them rose from 963 to 972. All the district boards except that of the Nilgiris are presided over by non-officials, two of whom were elected. At the end of the year 924 members were taking part in the deliberations of district boards in the Presidency. Of these 125 were ex-officio, 200 nominated by the Government and the remaining 599 elected by taluk boards, as against 127, 193 and 562, respectively, in the previous year. The district boards held 266 meetings in the course of the year. Four taluk boards were bifurcated and the number of taluk boards increased from 121 to 125. The presidents of 111 boards were non-officials elected by the taluk boards concerned, and of the remainder all except one were presided over by non-officials. The sanctioned strength of the taluk boards increased from 2,123 to 2,437. The actual number of members at the end of the year on the taluk boards in the Presidency was 2,404, of whom two were ex-officio, 692 nominated and 1,710 elected against 101, 738 and 1,219, respectively, in the previous year. Elections were held for 1,024 seats, of which 637 were contested, 35·7 per cent of the registered voters attending the poll, against 32·02 per cent in 1921-22. The taluk boards held 1,423 meetings during the year. The number of union boards in important villages fell by 26 to 552 owing to their abolition or constitution into village panchayats of some existing boards. The actual number of members on the 31st March 1923 on these boards was 5,585, of whom 1,404 were nominated and 4,181 elected.

Finance

Receipts

115. Under the Local Boards Act, 1920, the levy of land cess at one anna in the rupee of the annual rent value is obligatory. An additional cess up to maximum of 3 pies can be levied for the purposes of the district board and a similar cess for purposes of the taluk board. Such additional cess was levied by 15 district boards and 86 taluk boards at varying rates. The levy of profession and companies' taxes is also authorized by the new Act. The former was levied during the year by 54 taluk boards and the latter by 32 taluk boards. Tolls upon carriages, carts and animals were collected in all the districts. House-tax was collected in all unions. The Elementary Education Act, 1920, authorizes the levy of a tax for the expansion of elementary education and 52 taluk boards availed themselves of this power. The cash balance under local funds at the beginning of the year was Rs. 62·55 lakhs. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 329·40 lakhs as against Rs. 213·7 lakhs in 1921-22. The grants received from Provincial funds aggregated Rs. 82·26 lakhs—an increase of Rs. 17·25 lakhs on the grants received in the previous year. Of this sum Rs. 22·08 lakhs were given in aid of the general resources of local boards; Rs. 14·25 lakhs for trunk roads, Rs. 36·42 lakhs for education and Rs. 1·75 lakhs for hospitals and dispensaries. A grant of Rs. 87,000 was paid as usual to the Nilgiri District Board for communications in consideration of the smallness of its revenues.

Expenditure

Communications

Education

116. The total expenditure of local boards was Rs. 329·08 lakhs as against Rs. 236·04 lakhs in 1921-22 and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 62·87 lakhs. The outlay on communications was Rs. 103·95 lakhs, of which over Rs. 17·13 lakhs were met from Government grants, the outlay in the previous year being Rs. 80·49 lakhs and the Government grant being over Rs. 15 lakhs. The length of the new roads constructed was 67 miles and the total mileage maintained at the end of the year was 25,696 of which 3,040 miles are trunk roads, towards the maintenance of which the Government contribute up to a "maximum" rate of Rs. 500 per mile. In 1921-22, 107½ miles of new road were constructed and 23,528 miles, of which 2,882½ miles were trunk roads, were maintained. At the close of the year local boards maintained 32 sessional schools for the training of teachers, one Sanskrit College, 159 secondary schools and 8,908 elementary

schools. In the sessional schools 540 students received instruction and the total attendance at all the other schools was 538,100 pupils. The total expenditure of local boards on education was Rs. 69·38 lakhs towards which provincial funds contributed Rs. 34·78 lakhs while the income from fees and other receipts was Rs. 13·48 lakhs. The net outlay from local funds was thus Rs. 21·12 lakhs. The number of hospitals maintained by local boards was 108 and the number of dispensaries 314 or 12 more than in the previous year. The cost of their maintenance amounted to Rs. 19·26 lakhs ; 18,571 in-patients and 4,317,908 out-patients were treated. The number of vaccinators employed by local boards was 480 ; they performed successful vaccinations on 867,338 persons or 20·3 per mille of the population. The total expenditure on preventive medicine including sanitation and water-supply amounted to Rs. 15·52 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 6·20 lakhs on the expenditure of the previous year.

Public Health

Vaccination

Sanitation, etc.

117. The only district boards which possess open railways are those of Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Salem, Kistna and Tinnevelly. The total length of the lines rose from 237 to 275 miles owing to the opening of a new line from Tinnevelly to Tiruchendūr by the Tinnevelly District Board. The total capital outlay on them was Rs. 154·34 lakhs. The gross traffic earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway increased by Rs. 1·97 lakhs to Rs. 15·22 lakhs and the working expenses by Rs. 1·36 lakhs to Rs. 11·80 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 0·71 lakh was paid to provincial funds towards the interest on, and an instalment of the principal of, a loan advanced by Government. The profit derived from the working of the railway was Rs. 3·42 lakhs or 5 per cent of the capital outlay against 4 per cent in 1921–22. During the year a sum of Rs. 0·61 lakh was spent on works of a capital nature and Rs. 1·46 lakhs was appropriated to ordinary revenues. The balance in favour of the railway cess fund at the end of the year was Rs. 28·87 lakhs in investments and Rs. 2·41 lakhs in cash. The gross earnings of the Pōdanūr-Pollachi Railway were Rs. 3·52 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 1·63 lakhs. The net profit on the working of the railway was Rs. 1·89 lakhs or 13·6 per cent of the capital outlay against 12·35 per cent in 1921–22. The railway cess fund in the district closed with a balance of Rs. 9·07 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1·52 lakhs in cash. The gross earnings of the Tenali-Rēpalle Railway in Guntūr were Rs. 1·98 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 0·99 lakh. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 0·99 lakh or 6·6 per cent on the capital outlay against 4·3 per cent in 1921–22. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 5·69 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1·34 lakhs in cash. The net earnings of the Sūramangalam-Salem Railway amounted to Rs. 44,476 or 8·9 per cent of the capital outlay against 6·5 per cent in 1921–22. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs 7·14 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1·61 lakhs in cash. In Kistna, the gross earnings of the Bezwada-Masulipatam Railway were Rs. 7·99 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 3·60 lakhs. The net earnings of the line amounted to Rs. 4·39 lakhs or 19·3 per cent of the capital outlay against 16·3 per cent in 1921–22. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 33·05 lakhs in investments and Rs. 7 33 lakhs in cash. The Board has to repay Government Rs. 6·09 lakhs out of the loan taken for the construction of the railway. The Tinnevelly District Board opened a new line from Tinnevelly to Tiruchendūr in February 1923 (38·18 miles in length), the capital outlay on which was Rs. 20·79 lakhs. During the year the Board realized a gross income of Rs. 0·40 lakh and a net income of Rs. 0·20 lakh. The balance to the credit of the railway fund was Rs. 6·44 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1·02 lakhs in cash. In addition, the loan of Rs. 8·50 lakhs taken from Government for the construction of the line was deposited in the Bank in the current account.

Railways

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1922–23).*

[*Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Local Self-Government—Municipalities*]

General

118. The total number of municipal councils declined from 81 to 80, owing to the abolition of the Repalle Municipality. The total sanctioned number of seats rose from 1,653 to 1,659. The number actually occupied at the end of the year was 1,619. Of the members, three were ex-officio, 404 nominated by the Government and the remaining 1,212 elected by the rate-payers. The system of appointing councillors by election was in force in all the municipalities. The proportion of Indian to European and Anglo-Indian members increased further. Forty councils consisted entirely of Indian members as against 42 in the previous year. The councils held 2,108 meetings in all, or 311 less than in the previous year, and 173 meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum. The average attendance of councillors at each meeting was 58·4 per cent of the total strength as against 63·7 per cent in 1921-22.

Finance

Receipts

119. The opening balance was Rs. 20·74 lakhs. Current receipts excluding the opening balance amounted to Rs. 119·09 lakhs. Of this Rs. 50·26 lakhs were derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 2-1-7 against the Presidency average of Rs. 2 3-0 in 1921-22. The grants from Provincial funds including those paid to Salem and Tinnevelly amounted to Rs. 12·13 lakhs, of which Rs. 5·23 lakhs were for education, Rs. 0·95 lakh for trunk roads and Rs. 0·83 lakh for medical relief. In 1921-22 grants from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 13·34 lakhs.

Loans

Loans amounting to Rs. 3·75 lakhs were advanced by the Government as against Rs. 7·54 lakhs in the previous year. The Madura municipal council took a loan of Rs. 1·38 lakhs for drainage and water-supply schemes and the Ootacamund municipal council Rs. 1·50 lakhs for the lighting of the town with electricity. Seven other councils borrowed small sums for various purposes.

Expenditure

120. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 115·01 lakhs. The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 17·36 lakhs, of which Rs. 8·19 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of roads and Rs. 6·14 lakhs on lighting. The Public Works Department had under execution water works in four municipal towns, improvements and extensions to the existing water works in five other municipalities, and drainage schemes in three towns. In another town the municipal staff was carrying out an

Water-supply and drainage

extension to the water-supply. Water-supply schemes for two municipalities, schemes of improvements to existing water works in two towns and drainage schemes for two other towns were sanctioned for execution, but of these one water-supply and two drainage schemes have been deferred for financial considerations. The total expenditure under water-supply and drainage, including the capital charges, was Rs. 18·75 lakhs of which Rs. 2·22 lakhs were met from Provincial grants and Rs. 2·37 lakhs out of loans advanced by the Government.

Medical relief

Municipal councils maintained 53 hospitals and 45 dispensaries. The number of in-patients treated was 23,788 and the number of out-patients 1,854,484. The total

Education

cost of medical relief was Rs. 8·69 lakhs. There were 1,086 elementary schools maintained by municipal councils, or 70 more than in the previous year. The number of municipal secondary schools increased from 35 to 40. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 9·89 lakhs, of which Rs. 4·62 lakhs, were met from Government grants and Rs. 4·01 lakhs from municipal funds. The total expenditure on secondary education was Rs. 6·28 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·53 lakhs were met from Provincial funds and the net debit to municipal funds was Rs. 1·35 lakhs. The expenditure in 1921-22 under this head was Rs. 7·52 lakhs, Rs. 3·50 lakhs being provided from Government funds and Rs. 3·92 lakhs from municipal funds.

Preventive medicine

The expenditure under preventive medicine which includes conservancy was Rs. 23·63 lakhs.

Debt

The closing balance of the year was Rs. 24·82 lakhs. The public debt outstanding against municipalities fell from Rs. 38·91 lakhs to Rs. 38·68 lakhs.

* The figures exclude statistics for Salem and Tinnevelly municipalities which are not available.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS 1922-23

[*Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for 1922 23 ; Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Local Self-Government—Municipalities*]

Finance

121. The total receipts for the year including the opening balance amounted to Rs. 97,57,369 compared with Rs. 86,24,656 last year. Revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 53,71,938 against Rs. 48,74,941 in 1921–22, an increase of Rs. 4,96,997. Towards this income municipal taxes contributed Rs. 40,34,853 and municipal fees and miscellaneous receipts Rs. 13,37,085 as against Rs. 35,94,207 and Rs. 12,80,734, respectively, last year. The incidence of taxation per head of population under all taxes including tolls was Rs. 7-12-3 against Rs. 6-14-11 in the preceding year. The increase is due to the fact that the incidence in 1921–22 was based on the provisional population of 526,911, whereas the incidence for the present year has been calculated on the final census figure of 518,660. The Corporation received from Government during the year a free grant of Rs. 3,00,000 and a loan of Rs. 3,00,000 for improving the water-supply and drainage. A loan of Rs. 9,03,400 was raised in the open market for the extension of electric lighting and for building houses for labourers. The debt at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 135·08 lakhs and the sinking fund relating to the various loans exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments was Rs. 36,05,195 of which Rs. 35,86,200 was in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures and Rs. 18,995 in cash. Payments amounting to Rs. 4,86,919 were made during the year towards the repayment of, and interest on, the Government instalment loans of Rs. 48 lakhs.

Works

122. The total sum expended on works during the year amounted to Rs. 31·54 lakhs against Rs. 27·67 lakhs last year. Of this sum Rs. 14·40 lakhs were spent on new works, Rs. 15·55 lakhs on repairs and Rs. 1·59 lakhs on establishment and miscellaneous charges, Rs. 15,035 were spent during the year on general improvements in the communications of the city, and Rs. 7·02 lakhs on repairs against Rs. 7·06 in the previous year. Three miles, 6 furlongs and 101 yards of unmetalled roads were metalled for the first time and 62·22 miles of roads were reformed, against 61·34 miles last year. The cost of reforming the roads increased from Rs. 4,191 to Rs. 4,524 per mile during the year. One mile, 7 furlongs and 20 yards of road were tarred for the first time and 2 miles, 6 furlongs and 192 yards were re-tarred. Three furlongs and 56 yards were laid with asphalt macadam. Rupees 71,690 were expended on new buildings and Rs. 30,937 on repairs to buildings during the year, as compared with Rs. 67,069 and Rs. 42,674 last year. Fourteen bathing fountains were constructed during the year ; additions and improvements were made to the dispensary in the Poonamallee High Road and to the lying-in hospital and the reconstruction of the Evening Bazaar near the Moore Market was under progress. A sum of Rs. 6·88 lakhs was expended on drainage during the year and Rs. 4·37 lakhs on maintenance. Sewers were laid in Purasawakam, Rayapuram and Chintadripet during the year. Urgently required drainage works were in progress. Expenditure on water-supply amounted to Rs. 6·63 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·61 lakhs last year. Rupees 3·25 lakhs were spent on maintenance work during the year. The quantity of water supplied during the year was 5,091·4 millions of gallons which is equivalent to nearly 26·5 gallons per head per day, the maximum average daily consumption per head in any month was 33·7 and the minimum was 21·1 gallons. During the year the waste detection staff examined 14,675 houses and brought to notice over 1,431 defects in the service pipes. Five hundred and forty-one new services were laid by licensed plumbers in the year and 1,750 were repaired, cleaned, altered or extended. Of these 541 new services 84 were first class connexions and the rest second class. The total number of house service connexions in the City on 31st March 1923 was 31,875. On 31st March 1923 there were 1,453 meters on house

Communications

Buildings

Drainage

Water-supply

services in use and efforts are being made to increase this number since meters serve as a valuable check on waste and are in addition a source of revenue to the Corporation. During the year 2 furlongs, $8\frac{2}{3}$ yards of pipes were removed, cleaned and relaid and 3 miles, 1 furlong, $88\frac{1}{4}$ yards of new mains were laid as compared with 2 miles, 3 furlongs, 35 yards last year. Thirty-five valves, 160 stop-cocks, 13 hydrants and 135 meters were also fixed. Seventy-eight fountains, 4 cattle troughs and 14 bathing fountains were erected and 12 fountains and 2 cattle troughs were removed during the year. At the end of the year there were 1,874 fountains, 77 cattle troughs and 33 bathing fountains. The quantity of water taken out of Red Hills lake during the year was 919,933,794 c.ft. against 898,017,543 c.ft. in the previous year. In August and September 1922 the amount of water began to fail owing to lack of rain and steps had to be taken to conserve the supply.

Education

123. The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 1·76 lakhs against Rs. 1·11 lakhs last year. No new schools were opened during the year, but sanction was granted for the construction of six schools which are now nearing completion. The management and control of the two schools for Muhammadan girls at Mylapore and Perambur were transferred to the Corporation by the Government, who agreed to pay annual subsidies of Rs. 3,517 and Rs. 1,445, respectively for the schools. The number of pupils on the rolls of the 35 Corporation schools including the Branch school at Nochikuppam was 6,215 (5,281 boys and 934 girls) on 31st March 1923 as compared with 5,504 (4,722 boys and 782 girls) in the previous year. There were 203 male teachers and 4 women teachers on 31st March 1923. Nearly all of them are qualified. Twenty-nine of the schools are held in Corporation buildings and 6 in rented ones. Twenty-seven schools provided manual training in wood work and 3 schools gave practical instruction in tailoring. Private bodies held night classes in 24 of the Coporation schools, three of which were provided with electric light for the convenience of those attending them.

Sanitation and medical services

124. Expenditure on sanitation amounted to Rs. 7·96 lakhs compared with Rs. 9·18 lakhs last year. The usual contribution of Rs. 20,000 for hospitals were paid to the Provincial Funds during the year, and contributions amounting to Rs. 16,504 were made to other hospitals and dispensaries. The maintenance of the Corporation hospitals and dispensaries cost Rs. 1·54 lakhs against Rs. 1·69 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of patients treated was 265,434 as compared with 233,611 last year. The expenditure on vaccination and registration of births and deaths increased from Rs. 36,212 to Rs. 38,737 during the year. The total number of persons vaccinated was 51,863 compared with 26,991 in the previous year. Operations for the prevention of malaria were continued during the year and several unhealthy swamps and stagnant channels were drained.

Vaccination and registration of births and deaths

Anti-malarial operations

Miscellaneous

125. On the 31st March 1923 there were 5,982 electric lights and 1,399 oil lamps in use in the City. Expenditure under the head increased from Rs. 4·25 lakhs to Rs. 5·46 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 1·46 lakhs was spent on maintenance. Expenditure on the public parks during the year amounted to Rs. 30,182 against Rs. 57,481 in the previous year. The cost of maintaining the fire engines was Rs. 35,762 compared with Rs. 34,766 last year. There were 69 fire calls as against 104 in the previous year, but the engines worked only in 27 cases.

MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1922-23)

Military

126. The strength of the twelve Auxiliary Force Units in the Madras District on 31st March 1923, was 6,347 all ranks including 1,834 in the reserve. During the period under review the East Coast Battalion, A.F. (I) was called out in aid of the Civil power on two occasions. On 15th September 1922, one staff sergeant Instructor and seven other ranks were called out to assist the police in capturing a party of smugglers in the vicinity of the village Mogapetta, and from 25th to 28th September one officer and thirty-one other ranks were called out to garrison Narasapatam during the Agency operations. There was a great improvement in the standard of training and the efficiency of the Auxiliary Force in this district. Nearly 65 per cent of the members attended the annual camps and internal security schemes were rehearsed in conjunction with regular troops.

Indian Territorial Force

127. The four Indian Territorial Force units in the district were re-named as follows :—11/3rd Battalion, Madras Regiment (Trichinopoly), 12/3rd Battalion, Madras Regiment (Malabar), (Cannanore), 13/3rd Battalion, Madras Regiment (Malabar), (Cannanore), 14/3rd Battalion, Madras Regiment (Coorg), (Mercara). Sanction for the formation of three extra companies of the University Training Corps was obtained and this Corps was designated No. 5 (Madras) Battalion, University Training Corps. Recruiting was very satisfactory and units were nearly brought up to establishment. There were few absentees from the annual training. Progress was satisfactory and the greatest keenness and enthusiasm was displayed by all ranks.

MARINE (1922-23)

[*Reports of the Madras Port Trust and of the Madras Port Department for the year 1922-23 ; Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Local Self-Government—Port Trusts*]

Madras Port Trust

Finance

128. During the year the gross receipts of the Port Trust were Rs. 28,04,251 as compared with Rs. 25,43,001 in 1921-22 and Rs. 15,27,501 in 1913-14, the increase being mainly due to an appreciable increase in the tonnage of the imports. Working expenses, inclusive of interest on capital and amortization, continued to increase and amounted to Rs. 24,70,592 as compared with Rs. 23,21,418 in 1921-22 and Rs. 11,39,616 in 1913-14. Of the increase of Rs. 1,49,000 a sum of Rs. 42,000 was due to interest and repayment of loans and was unavoidable. The cost of engineering maintenance increased by Rs. 36,000. General charges went up by Rs. 58,000 due in part to the payment of certain leave allowances and to the increased cost of labour. A sum of Rs. 94,577 was paid to the Corporation of Madras on account of property tax. The net result of working for the year was a profit of Rs. 3,33,660 as compared with Rs. 2,21,583 last year. During the year under review the Government of Madras granted to the Trustees a loan of Rs. 8 lakhs bearing interest at 6½ per cent per annum and repayable by equated monthly payments by the middle of July 1952. The outstanding amount of loans due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 1,49,15,498 at the close of the year.

Works

129. In the course of the year the repairs to the northern sheltering arm which was damaged by the cyclone of November 1916 were fully completed, including the apron round the head and concrete capping to the blockwork. At the head of this arm an automatic Aga light was installed and this was brought into use in December 1922. It has since been in continuous operation. Extensive waiting accommodation on the South quay for first, second and third class passengers, with conveniences for medical and customs examination, was completed and brought into

use about the end of the year. A 40-foot road with a spacious carriage park gives access to the waiting rooms from the south. A passenger platform 400 feet long, available both for rail and road, has also been provided as well as a refreshment stall for the convenience of Indian passengers. The suction dredger "Madras" worked for 171 days during the year. Twenty-one days were spent in maintaining the required depth in the entrance, 57 days in maintenance dredging and the remaining 93 days in capital dredging in deepening the harbour to 32 feet. Instead of proceeding to Calcutta, as in previous years, for her annual overhaul, the "Madras" was hauled up on the Trust's slipway, the cradle of which had been lengthened for the purpose. The cost of overhauling her was thereby much reduced and the risk inseparable from the voyage to and from Calcutta was obviated. This boat dredged 98,008 tons of mud during the 171 working days at a cost of 28·88 annas per ton including interest and depreciation.

Trade

130. The total tonnage of imports and exports was the largest on record and amounted to 975,883 tons as compared with 874,080 tons in 1921–22 and 797,665 tons in 1913–14. The import tonnage of 758,928 tons exceeded that of 1921–22 which amounted to 660,571 tons; the export tonnage which rose from 131,016 tons in 1920–21 to 213,509 tons during 1921–22 increased further to 216,955 tons in 1922–23. Of the above total, 975,101 tons were sea-borne against 870,119 tons in the previous year. The difference between the total traffic and the amount sea-borne consists almost entirely of rail-borne coal. Imports of rice from Rangoon advanced by 48 per cent, the figure for the year being 59,760 tons. Imports of other food-grains receded by 17 per cent, the figure for the year being 35,275 tons. Imports of railway materials more than doubled, the figure for the year being 66,904 tons. This increase is mainly due to the arrival of materials for the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendur extension of the South Indian Railway and for extensive renewals. Imports of coal, though lower than the previous year, were higher than in any of the preceding years. Imports of foreign coal amounted to 67,774 tons and of Bengal coal to 185,731 tons. Imports of glassware expanded from 3,404 tons to 6,552 tons or by 92·4 per cent. There were also increases in the imports of machinery, cement, Burmese teak, paper, motor cars (over 100 per cent), raw tobacco, piece-goods, iron and steel (due to the low prices quoted in Germany and Belgium), other metals, raw cotton, Government stores, building materials and several other commodities. There was a decrease in the imports of sugar, yarn, kerosene oil, matches, spices, gunnies and raw hides. Imports of liquor continued to be below the average. Groundnuts continued to be the principal commodity of export. One feature of this traffic during the year was that the Argentine Republic became a customer and 800 tons were shipped to that country. There was an increase of 40 per cent in the export of tanned hides and skins, though it is still below the average of the previous 19 years. There was an increase of 82 per cent in shipments of raw cotton, China, Japan, Belgium and the United Kingdom being the chief customers, and there was also a slight increase in the export of piece-goods. Exports of tea increased from 196 to 611 tons. There was an increase in the exports of vegetables, spices, vegetable oil, and kerosene oil. The shipment of ores was trebled, the quantity exported being 35,581 tons. Shipments of yarn, oil-cake, tobacco and castor-seed decreased.

Minor Ports

131. The receipts of the Port, Marine and Coast Light funds amounted to Rs. 25·37 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 20·37 lakhs as against Rs. 19·21

Finance

lakhs and Rs. 14·90 lakhs in the previous year. The closing balance consisted of Rs. 15·39 lakhs in cash and Rs. 16·80 lakhs in Government securities, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 10·39 lakhs and Rs. 16·23 lakhs respectively. The total collections from port dues amounted to Rs. 5·12 lakhs as against Rs. 4·01 lakhs in 1921–22. The increase in the collections was due to the introduction of increased rates.

Trade

The aggregate value of sea-borne trade of the minor ports in the Presidency was Rs. 43·65 crores as against Rs. 58·22 crores in the previous year.

Tuticorin rose to the foremost place among the minor ports, Cochin coming second. Eighteen thousand six hundred and seventy-seven vessels with an aggregate of 5,740,593 tons entered the various out-ports during the year as against 18,774 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 5,137,629 tons in the previous year. The total number of passengers that arrived at, and sailed from, the various out-ports, was 518,261. In the previous year the number was 436,241. The largest number, as usual, travelled via Dhanushkodi.

General

132. Original works to the value of Rs. 8·62 lakhs were executed by the Port departments and the Harbour Works divisions for the Ports and Marine funds. Preliminary works connected with Cochin Harbour proceeded. Experimental works the object of which was to find out whether the bar at Cochin could be kept open during the monsoon were in progress. There was a severe cyclone on the Coast near Tuticorin which caused damage to vessels riding at anchor at the port of Kulasekarapatnam. The port of Cocanada experienced a cyclonic storm during which a boat with nine persons on board capsized, six of whom were drowned. The total number of wrecks and casualties reported from the outports during the year was 15 as against 17 in the previous year. Dredging operations for the maintenance of boat channels were carried out at Cocanada, Cuddalore, Negapatam, Mangalore, Cochin and Tuticorin. All coast lights were exhibited throughout the year without interruption. Cannanore tower being endangered by erosion, the light was extinguished.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1922)

[*Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the year 1922*]

Mortality

Wild animals

Snakes

Rewards

133. The number of persons killed by wild animals during the year was 901—an increase of 61 over the number killed last year. The casualties in the Agency amounted to 748. The number of persons who died as the result of snake-bite fell to 936 from 969 last year. The largest number of deaths (108) occurred in Tanjore. Two thousand and twenty-two animals were destroyed during the year as compared with 1,806 in 1921 and rewards of the aggregate value of Rs. 21,246 were paid against Rs. 18,274 last year.

MISCELLANEOUS (1922)

[*Reports on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts; Return of sulphur licences in force during the year 1922*]

Arms, explosives and sulphur

134. The total number of licences in force under the Indian Arms Act fell by 362 to 58,786—the decrease being conspicuous in Malabar, Ganjām, the Nilgiris, Anantapur and South Kanara districts. In the Ganjām district the fall in number was due to the fact that certain persons, including "Doras" and "Bissoyies" of Parlākimedi, who were exempt under the old rules from taking out licences, did not renew their licences. The decrease in Anantapur was attributed to the failure on the part of a large number of cultivators to purchase fire-arms and renew their licences for 1922 and also to some extent to the high rate of licence fees charged for revolvers and smooth-bore guns, while in the case of South Kanara the decrease was ascribed mainly to the cancellation of licences held by non-co-operators

and by persons who had no real necessity for the possession of guns. Licences issued for the destruction of wild animals doing injury to crops or cattle decreased from 13,415 to 13,261. The number of breech-loading guns licensed fell from 13,651 to 13,379. There was an increase (70) in the total number of revolvers licensed, the number licensed in Coimbatore being the largest. The number of pistols which were licensed was 570 as against 455 last year. The total number of licences issued under the Indian Explosives Act rose by 217 to 8,289. There were 524 prosecutions under the Arms and Explosives Acts, of which 449 resulted in conviction giving a percentage of 86 against 83 in the previous year. The number of sulphur licences granted fell by 17 to 259 but the quantity for which licences were obtained was about 50 per cent more than that of the previous year. There was no illicit manufacture of fire arms during the year but there was one case of manufacture of bombs in the Cuddapah district in which the offender was convicted.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

AGRICULTURE (1922-23)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture and the Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for 1922-23; Agricultural Statistics of India, Vol. I, British India*]

General

135. Their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Willingdon visited the Agricultural College in June 1922 and His Excellency laid the foundation stone of the new Teaching College. In December His Excellency formally opened the Paddy Breeding sub-station at Aduturai in the Tanjore district. Five officers on probation in the Madras Agricultural Service were confirmed during the year and two were recruited to the service on probation. The sanctioned cadre of Upper Subordinates in the Agricultural section of the non-gazetted service was increased from 72 to 86. The post of Temporary Inspector of Agricultural Offices was made permanent, but that of the Government Agricultural Bacteriologist was held in abeyance and the subordinate staff of the Bacteriological section, except one assistant who was transferred to the Chemistry section, was discharged. Owing to lack of funds little progress was made with buildings and laying out of farms during the year. In April 1922 the Agricultural College was affiliated to the University of Madras and the replacement of the old Diploma course by a course for the degree of B.Sc.Ag. was completed. Thirty-five students sat for Part I of the examination and 17 for Part II. Sixteen of the former and eleven of the latter passed. Eight students passed both parts and are eligible for the degree. The certificate course was continued during the year, but fewer students attended it. An Agricultural Middle School for 40 boys was opened at Taliparamba on 1st June 1922 and was attended by 18 boys during the year. A similar school was opened at Anakapalle but was worked with difficulty owing to the buildings not having been completed. The south-west monsoon was generally unfavourable except on the West Coast. The north-east monsoon gave heavy rain in October and November. Much rain fell on the Madras Coast and in Tanjore during January, and the Circars during February; standing crops were damaged in consequence.

Agricultural education

Season and rainfall

Agricultural research and experiments

136. Varietal tests continued to be carried out not only on the Agricultural Stations but in co-operation with cane growers. One of the most promising canes in the Circars, J. 247, yielded 9,134 lb. of jaggery an acre at the Anakapalle Station. Coimbatore canes raised at the Sugarcane Breeding Station showed a marked superiority over the indigenous canes in Northern India. It was finally proved that fish guano as a manure for sugarcane is superior to a mixture of sugarcane and wild indigo. Experiments also showed fish guano to be a more economical manure than castor. The paddy season at Coimbatore was poor, but work on the raising and testing of improved strains of paddy was continued—52 strains being under test and 260 being grown for the first time. At Aduturai an improved strain of the red sirumani variety which is grown locally, gave an increased yield of 16 per cent. An improved white sirumani variety yielded an increase of 10 per cent. Seeds for both varieties were in much demand by ryots. Experiments showed that soil of poor fertility when treated with bonemeal together with green manure gave a marked increase in yield. The soil survey of the principal rice areas

Sugarcane

Paddy

was continued during the year. Experimental work on cotton at Coimbatore was hampered by the spotted boll-worm and stem-weevil which

Cotton attacked the whole crop. The question of bud and boll shedding continued to receive attention during the year. Experimental work was also carried out at Hagari, Nandyal and Kovilpatti. At Nandyal the season was unfavourable and experiments were to some extent vitiated by the

Dry grains attacks of a bacterial disease. Steps are now being taken to acquire a piece of land at Coimbatore for raising and studying the various dry grain crops. During the year a small crop was raised on a plot of land at the sugarcane station. Pollination studies were begun as a preliminary to cross-

Groundnut breeding work. The varietal and single plant selection work on groundnuts was continued at the Research Station at Naduvirapattu. Work was

Coconuts continued in the Coconut Station on the West Coast. At Pilicode the experiment of putting out three months old seedlings in October was tried in order to avoid the water logging effect of the monsoon on the seedlings. The experiment was in part successful but the seedlings were unable to resist the attacks of termites. At Nileshwar which is free from this pest the later planting was a complete success. Systematic manurial experiments were begun during the year to test the value of different manures and methods of cultivation on the trees at Kasaragod. A study of the date of harvest of nuts in relation to the yield of oil and copra showed that the April-May harvest yields the largest number of nuts which are also the biggest in size while more oil is found in nuts of the

Fruit culture December-January harvest. The Pomological Station opened at Coonoor in 1920 has now been fully planted with various kinds of fruits. Strawberries were successfully grown as an intercrop with fruit trees. During the year there was a large demand for small fruits for jam making and for plants, and the money realized by the sale of these covered 59 per cent of the total expenditure on the orchards. Mauritius plantains were grown at the Palur Agricultural Station to aid in the extermination of Korai (*Cyperus rotundus*, a troublesome weed) and gave a profit of over

Miscellaneous crops Rs. 320 an acre. The pepper crop which promised to be a bumper one, was to some extent spoiled by a severe attack of the flea beetle. Steps are being taken to devise a practical remedy for this pest. The season was unfavourable to the potato crop, but 29 varieties were tested during the year. The utility of fish-guano as a manure for potato was proved. A top dressing of nitrate of soda at the rate of 1 cwt. an acre also gives a good return for the money expended. Experiments are being made

Live stock with green manure crops of various kinds. The superiority of cross-bred cows over other varieties as milk-givers was clearly established and it is hoped to build up a nucleus of cross-bred stock for distribution to district farms and Madras and ultimately for sale to the public. Foot and mouth disease broke out at the Ongole Cattle Farm at Chintaladevi. Fifty-four head of cattle were successfully inoculated against rinderpest.

Scientific research and experiments

137. In addition to a very large number of analyses carried out in connexion with researches at the laboratory 709 samples were analysed for members of the public and a sum of Rs. 1,612 was collected as fees.

Chemistry Further investigation of calcium cyanamide as a fertiliser showed that there is no risk of toxic action from its use provided that it is evenly distributed and thoroughly incorporated in the soil. Experiments for discovering the best method of storing farmyard manure were begun in the middle of the year. Research was conducted into the causes of beri-beri. The results, which are as yet incomplete, seem to point to the fact that the incidence of this disease is connected with the method of treat-

Bacteriology ment which rice receives before its use as food. A new cotton disease, apparently akin to that known in America as " Black arm, " was under examination and the causes of the premature fall of cotton bolls were

General botany further investigated. A large number of plants were identified and reported on for various correspondents. A considerable amount of

Entomology entomological work was done and a large number of insects were identi-

Mycology fied. Research work was done on the diseases of sugarcane and paddy. Investigations into the anatomy of Hevea rubber were also carried out.

138. The Pest Act was applied to five taluks each in Salem and Trichinopoly districts, to the whole of the Madura district and to all Coimbatore district except Kollegal taluk. The time for removal of the plant from the ground was, however, extended to 1st September, and although this measure gave satisfaction to the ryots at the time, it largely nullified the object of the Act since an insufficient dead season was provided. Propaganda was carried out by means of posters, lantern lectures, demonstrations and lectures at Jamabandi camps. Operations under the Act for eradicating palm disease in the Northern Circars were continued. The provisions of the Act were also put in force in December 1922 at Mangalore where a large number of coconut trees had been attacked by a caterpillar pest known as *Nephantis Serinopa*. Two Agricultural Demonstrators were deputed to assist the ryots of South Malabar in dealing with an outbreak of Mahali disease which attacks arecanuts. A number of spraying demonstrations were given during the year in different parts of the Presidency. In order to bring home to the ryots in a systematic way methods of agriculture which experiments have proved to be better than those usually adopted, demonstration plots were established during the year on ryot's own lands and were cultivated under improved methods. A profit and loss account was maintained for each plot so that the ryot might himself see the benefit which accrues to him from the use of improved methods of agriculture. These demonstration plots proved popular and satisfactory results were obtained from them. In the Berhampur and Aska taluks of Ganjām, in the North Arcot district and elsewhere the area under improved varieties of sugarcane increased considerably during the year. Sugarcane was grown for the first time in Tiruvallūr, Arkōnam, Chingleput and Saidapet. A campaign to introduce the Sindewahi furnace for making jaggery was conducted during the year in Chittoor district and elsewhere. In Bellary district 133,366 lb. of H. 25 cotton seed were distributed to the ryots—129,033 lb. being sold and 4,333 lb. distributed free. The yields from these seeds varied from 3 to 5 maunds an acre as compared with the average yield of 2½ maunds from the local cotton. In Kurnool 83,523 lb. of N. 14 seed were distributed—71,528 lb. being sold and 11,995 lb. given free. Cotton seed was also supplied from the farms at Kōvilpatti, Avanashi, Karumattampatti and Perumanallur. Over 68 tons of selected strains of paddy seed were distributed during the year from seed available at Agricultural stations and seed farms. Demonstrations of economic planting were given in various places. Propaganda was undertaken for encouraging the cultivation of coconuts in South Kanara and proved very successful. The advantage of using a Sindewahi furnace for boiling green turmeric was demonstrated to the ryots of Guntūr where 5,000 acres of land are under this crop. An organized attempt was also made during the year to introduce better methods of cultivation—more especially the use of iron ploughs. Five hundred and eighty-four iron ploughs were sold by the Agricultural Department as a result of these efforts.

Aids to the public

Operations against disease

Demonstration plots

Crops

139. Some twenty-five small agricultural exhibitions were held at important fairs and festivals. Improved implements and strains of seeds were shown and ploughing demonstrations were given at each exhibition. The Tiruppūr cattle show was opened by the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter on the 31st May and various demonstrations were given at it by the Agricultural Department. The part taken by the ryots in the Agricultural section of the show was, however, disappointing.

Agricultural and Cattle Shows

140. The Agricultural Engineer was engaged in work on experiments and improvements to various agricultural implements. Tractors were found unsuitable for deep ploughing. The cost of ploughing with an Austin tractor amounted to Rs. 9-14-0 an acre.

Agricultural Engineering

141. The entire work relating to agricultural statistics and the statistics of retail prices of the principal food-grains and salt was transferred from the Board of Revenue to the Agricultural Department on 1st June 1922. Various improvements were made in these returns with a view to

Statistics

making them more concise and intelligible. With the exception of season and crop reports and the fortnightly returns of retail prices all important reports and returns were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. Summaries were also supplied for publication in the Press.

Finance

142. Expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 14,82,243 as compared with Rs. 13,86,005 last year: receipts fell from Rs. 3,64,494 to Rupees 3,22,815, the net increase in expenditure being Rs. 1,37,917. The increase in expenditure was due to work on the new agricultural station at Guntūr, on the paddy breeding station at Aduturai and on the cotton breeding station at Coimbatore. The fall under receipts was mainly caused by the abolition of the two agricultural stations at Bantanahal and Sirvel.

Civil Veterinary Department

143. The department was staffed by a Chief Superintendent, 1 Divisional Superintendent, 4 Deputy Superintendents, 18 Veterinary Inspectors and 172 Veterinary Assistants. A dispensary was opened at Tiruppūr during the year and a hospital at Ootacamund : both have made a good start. The work done during the year at most of the institutions showed an increase over that of last year. The number of castrations performed at Veterinary institutions during the year was 2,643 as compared with 2,617 last year—the majority being performed as usual in Ganjām district. Every district in the Presidency is now provided with at least 2 touring Veterinary Assistants but some of them are in urgent need of an additional touring staff. The number of inoculations performed by the touring Assistants during the year was 29,946 as compared with 70,815 in 1921–22. This large decrease is mainly due to the small incidence of rinderpest during the year. 19,535 cases of contagious diseases and 25,593 cases of non-contagious diseases were treated as against 18,119 contagious and 24,718 non-contagious cases last year. The number of castrations performed by the touring Assistants fell from 6,809 to 5,641. As a measure of retrenchment, the number of days which the Assistants spent on tour each month was reduced from 20 to 15 from February 1922. The mortality from contagious diseases amongst cattle was 28,178 in the year against 34,258 last year, the most remarkable decrease being in the number of deaths from rinderpest which were only 4,279 compared with 10,121 last year. There was, however, a considerable increase in the reported mortality from Black Quarter, the deaths numbering 4,343 against 3,407 in 1921-22. There were 4,185 convictions under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act in the Presidency excluding Madras City. The total expenditure of the department excluding the Madras Veterinary College rose from Rs. 3,27,165 to Rs. 4,60,400. The chief cause of the increase was the provincialization of all Veterinary institutions previously managed by local bodies. The total number of students in the Madras Veterinary College on 31st March 1923 was 88. The results of the annual examinations were satisfactory. The total number of the in-patients and out-patients treated in the College Hospital during the year was 2,690. Expenditure on the College and Hospital amounted to Rs. 98,597.

WEATHER AND CROPS

(Fasli 1332—1st July 1922 to 30th June 1923)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1332 ; Agricultural Statistics of India : Estimates of area and yield of principal crops in India*]

Rainfall

144. The south-west monsoon was exceptionally favourable on the West Coast. The monsoon commenced early with light showers, strengthened in the last week of June, and gave very heavy rains for the next four weeks. It slackened in the end of July and the rainfall afterwards was normal. In the rest of the Presidency, the monsoon was late and gave inadequate rainfall, and wet cultivation was retarded by the late

receipt of water in the main rivers. The rainfall in June was inadequate, especially in the Circars and the Deccan. In July, good rains were received in the Circars and dry crops were sown on a large scale. The main rivers received supplies and wet cultivation in the deltaic districts made rapid progress. The rainfall in the Deccan was again below the average. There was little rainfall in August except in the Circars and standing crops suffered from drought in the Deccan and the Central districts. The rainfall in September, though generally below the average, proved very beneficial to standing crops, but there were practically no rains in the Deccan, Nellore, Chittoor, and Tinnevelly. On the whole, the south-west monsoon was insufficient and ill-distributed except in the Agency, Ganjām, South Arcot, and Tanjore and on the West Coast. The monsoon was a partial failure in the Deccan and parts of the Central districts. The area sown with the help of the monsoon did not materially differ from the normal but, as compared with last year, the areas sown on dry lands and wet lands showed decreases of 10 and 4 per cent, respectively, the reduction being most noticeable on dry lands in the Deccan (15 per cent) and the South (17 per cent) and on wet lands in the Carnatic (12 per cent) and Central districts (16 per cent). The north-east monsoon commenced on the Madras Coast about the middle of October and continued almost without a break up to the middle of November in the Carnatic, Central, and Southern districts. The monsoon weakened in the second fortnight of November, but revived about the end of the month when rainfall was again general and heavy. In the Circars, the rainfall was light in October and November, but heavy rains were received in the end of November accompanied by a cyclone in Gōdāvari and Kistna. Well-distributed rainfall was also received in the Deccan during this period. December was characterized by dry weather throughout the Presidency. Sowings of crops proceeded apace, especially in Bellary and Anantapur, and in the Central districts, where the earlier monsoon had been most unfavourable. Standing crops were generally benefited, but the groundnut crop in the Deccan had suffered too much from the earlier drought to revive completely. The cyclone in Gōdāvari and Kistna damaged crops to some extent. Excessive rains in the end of November interfered with the harvest of paddy in Tanjore and caused breaches in the Periyār Main Canal and in tanks in the Madura and Rāmnād districts. On the whole, the north-east monsoon was very favourable and saved parts of the Deccan and Central districts from the worst effects of the failure of the south-west monsoon. The rainfall, however, proved hardly sufficient for the heavy black cotton soils of Bellary. The area sown with the help of this monsoon exceeded the average and last fasli by over 10 per cent. The increase was fairly general, being largest on the dry lands in the Deccan (20 per cent) and on wet lands in the Carnatic (25 per cent) and the Central districts (60 per cent). There was a temporary revival of monsoonic conditions in south-east Madras about the middle of January which damaged the paddy crop in Tanjore to some extent and retarded the harvest in Tanjore. Untimely rains in the first week of March damaged tobacco under the curing process in Guntūr. The hot weather showers in April and May were below the average but beneficial.

Crops

145. The year on the whole was not unfavourable except in Bellary. The area under cultivation was normal on dry lands, but exceeded the normal on wet lands by about 5 per cent. Bumper yields of paddy were obtained on the West Coast, but the yields in Ganjām and the deltas were below normal. The yield of dry grains was below normal in parts of the Deccan. Fair crops of cotton were harvested except in Bellary and Tinnevelly, but the low yield in Tinnevelly was not felt as a hardship on account of high prices. The yield of groundnut was fair except in the Deccan. The yield of jaggery was below normal in Ganjām and Vizagapatam. Pepper and coconuts yielded well on the West Coast. There was no famine or scarcity during the year. Test works and kitchens which had been opened in the previous fasli in the taluks of Pattikonda,

Dhone, and Kurnool were closed by the end of August 1922. Seasonal remissions were granted to some extent on account of inadequate rainfall and scanty supplies of water in irrigation sources in parts of Ganjām Berhampur and Chicacole taluks), Vizagapatam, Kistna (Bezwada, Ellore, and Yernagudem taluks), Kurnool, North Arcot (Vellore, Gudiyāttam, and Tiruppattūr taluks), and Salem. Remissions on account of inundation and loss of crop were granted in Berhampur and Chatrapur taluks of Ganjām and the Ongole, Narasaraopet, and Pālnād taluks of Guntūr. Owing to general failure of the early sown crops the dry assessment in 24 red soil villages in Rayadrug taluk, Bellary district, was fully remitted and the collection of dry assessment amounting to over two lakhs of rupees in parts of six taluks of Bellary district was suspended beyond the fasli. Owing to good harvest in the Pālnād taluk, half the suspended revenue of fasli 1330 relating to six villages was collected during the fasli.

HORTICULTURE (1922–23)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1922–23; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras; and Report on the Government Cinchona Department, Madras*]

Government Botanic Gardens and Parks, the Nilgiris

146. The Government gardens at Ootacamund and the Sim's Park at Coonoor are of historic interest and very popular places of public resort. An increasing number of the public make use of these parks each year, and during the year under review their popularity was very marked. These parks contain very valuable collections of trees and plants and in this respect compare favourably with any gardens in the East. The nurseries were kept well stocked, and seeds and plants were on sale to the public. The Conservatory which is a specially popular part of the Ootacamund gardens was kept bright with flowering plants; Cinerarias, Primulas, Geraniums, Phyllocactus, Begonias, and Orchids being a special feature of this display. The collections are maintained by constant exchange with Kew and other gardens of note. The expenditure on these gardens amounted to Rs. 31,544–8–10 and receipts to Rs. 7,752–1–10.

The Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras (1922-23)

147. The eighty-fourth annual Exhibition of flowers, vegetables and fruits and the annual competition for the best kept garden were held in February 1923. The number of visitors to the show was somewhat larger than in the previous year. Correspondence with botanic and other public societies, planters and the general public was maintained, and sales and exchanges were effected. Information regarding the cultivation of fruit trees, vegetables, ornamental and flowering plants and grass lawns was given to inquirers. The supply of class materials for the local colleges and schools, and of specimens to students and visitors was continued as in previous years. The receipts from cut flowers and floral work increased from Rs. 2,263-14-6 to Rs. 2,560-12-9. Several thousands of annuals were raised and distributed among members and sold to non-members. The Rosary was maintained and it largely met the local demand for flowers, wreaths, crosses and bouquets. The income of the society for the year from all sources, excluding the Government grant, amounted to Rs. 13,078–3–10 as against Rs. 12,454–10–8, or Rs. 623–9–2 more than last year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 17,982–11–9 as against Rs. 15,864–5–3 in the previous year.

Government Cinchona Plantations (1922-23)

148. The outstanding feature of the year was the initiation of a system of commercial accounts in the department. The scheme was prepared under the orders of Government by Messrs. Price Waterhouse & Co., London, and the published accounts based on the system will afford the public a ready means of estimating the value of the work carried on. In the year too, the Penitentiary took over the retail selling agency of quinine and disposed of goods to the value of over Rs. 9 lakhs. As can

be gathered by the reports of the past few years, the supply of bark to keep the factory at full working pressure has been the main problem of the department and unfortunately the close of the year saw no definite settlement. The policy was continued of treating the Government Cinchona Plantations as a reserve source of bark and consequently only a small amount of bark was harvested. Altogether the factory used up 792,700 lb. of cinchona bark in the manufacture of 31,134 lb. quinine sulphate a result which shows that the bark recently obtainable in the market is of very inferior quality. The interim report of the Surgeon-General on a therapeutic test of a specially prepared sample of cinchona febrifuge (to which the name Malarine has been given), shows most gratifying results and it is intended, when the experiment is complete, to give full publicity regarding this little known specific for malaria. In addition to quinine sulphate, the main product of the factory, there was also produced over 1,000 lb. of quinine hydrochloride and 100 lb. of quinine bi-hydrochloride while the addition to stock of cinchona febrifuge amounted to 11,290 lb. The balance sheet, which can be seen in the departmental Administration Report, shows that the profit on the working of the year amounted to over Rs. 3½ lakhs, which, when the recent fall in the market value of quinine is considered, shows that this industry still continues to be a source of appreciable revenue.

FISHERIES

(1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[*Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending 30th June 1923*]

General

149. In several respects the year proved a record one, all the more important revenue sections showing satisfactory returns. A change was made in the method of calculating the net profits which accrued from the various semi-commercial undertakings which are under the control of the department. In past years, with the sanction of Government, a proportion usually 50 per cent of the salaries of the permanent staff was omitted from the debit accounts of all such undertakings, on the ground that a large proportion of the time of the staff was devoted to experiment and industrial research. In the present year the profits have been calculated after deducting all expenditure.

Marine fisheries

150. Both the output and sales of canned fish at Chaliyam showed an increase. Sardines were abundant in numbers but small in size and deficient in oil, and therefore not very suitable for canning purposes. Mackerel and prawns were unusually scarce. Output was nevertheless increased from 70,510 tins in 1921–22 to 79,783 which is about the limit of production with the existing machinery. Sales also increased from 31,243 to 48,285, but were not so great as they might have been could the provision dealers in the Presidency have been induced to sell the articles. Hopes are now entertained of establishing an export trade in canned fish with Australia whence enquiries have been received. After paying all labour, supervision and other charges the cannery made a net profit of Rs. 1,994. Fish-curing suffered owing to the great scarcity of mackerel and large fish. The total quantity of fish purchased for curing at Tanur was 249,293 lb. Moist curing of fish with korakapuli was continued with success, seer slices and sardines being treated as well as mackerel. The total output of guano was 84,720 lb. which is equal to a proportion of 18 per cent of the weight of raw fish treated (417,053 lb.). The guano was mostly supplied to the Madras Agricultural Department and to various co-operative societies at Rs. 95

Canning

Curing

a ton f.o.r. Tanur. The proportion of oil for the most part varied from 2·2 to 7·7 per cent and this poor yield greatly restricted the preparation of superior oil, the outturn of which was only 815 gallons. About 1,350 gallons of second grade, i.e., pressed oil, was also manufactured. Ten thousand three hundred lb. of fine fish meal was prepared during the year and in spite of many difficulties which were encountered in the course of its manufacture the price was reduced to As. 2 a lb.—12½ per cent discount being allowed on large orders. The total weight of the fish brought into the eleven public fish-curing yards during the year was 355,913 maunds as against 389,674 maunds last year and the weight when cured amounted to 208,201 maunds as against 220,701 maunds. The decrease in quantity was chiefly due to the small catches of mackerel. Many more of the curing sheds were reconstructed with cemented floors and masonry salting troughs. There was a large increase in the number of the private factories at work owing to the great abundance of sardines: but while the output of guano increased, the amount of oil manufactured was small. The various operations at Tanur resulted in a profit of Rs. 5,782 after paying all expenses. The oyster season was exceptionally good, 184,350 oysters being supplied during the year. Unfortunately the cost of collection and treatment was much higher than usual in consequence of the destruction of the main bed of oysters at Pulicat by a shell contractor. As a result of this, oysters had to be collected from Ennur and, as sewage contamination is possible there, measures had to be taken, at some cost, to sterilize them. Sales resulted in a loss of Rs. 491. In the Pearl and Chank fisheries a net profit of Rs. 38,286 was realized as against a loss of Rs. 18,771 in 1921–22. Much difficulty was experienced in getting divers for the chank fishery at Tinnevelly and finally 124 Kilakarai divers had to be brought to assist in the work. Owing to adverse weather conditions little work was done in connexion with the bêche-de-mer fisheries and only 855 lb. were cured. Young pearl oysters were reported in November to be abundant on the beds off Tuticorin, and an inspection showed that 28 out of 54 banks bore large numbers of young pearl oysters which should be ready to fish in 1926 or 1927. The number of people who visited the Aquarium decreased from 125,161 to 102,349 during the year, but, owing to an increase in the rates of admission, the receipts from all sources increased from Rs. 9,111 to Rs. 9,461. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 7,486 as compared with Rs. 4,795 in 1921–22. The work of investigating the habits and life-history of the oil-sardine was continued during the year and a report on the subject was submitted to Government. A similar enquiry in connexion with the Indian mackerel was much hindered by the scarcity of that fish during the year.

Oysters

Pearl and Chank fisheries

Aquarium

Research

Inland fisheries

151. The total receipts from tank rentals, etc., during the year amounted to Rs. 1,14,416 and the total expenditure to Rs. 93,965—the net profit being Rs. 20,451. No additions were made to the number of tanks under the department's control owing to the necessity for retrenchment, but the stocking of these tanks which were already in charge of the department was done more efficiently and on a larger scale than in any previous year. The three fish farms at Sunkesula, Ippur and Perambur and the larvicidal farm at Praema all worked satisfactorily and the new farm at Vellore Fort Moat was partly stocked although it was not quite finished. The farms at Chingleput and Mopad were still under construction at the end of the year. The system of leasing fisheries to the co-operative society of the fishermen of Hampapuram continued to work satisfactorily.

Miscellaneous

152. The Fisheries Training Institute at Calicut continued to do good work during the year. Forty pupils were under training. Seventeen students appeared for the final examination and 12 passed. At the end of the year the number of elementary schools in charge of the department was 26 against 27 last year. The number of pupils receiving education increased from 1,533 to 1,761, of whom 471 were girls. There is a perceptible decrease in intemperance among the younger men.

Three new co-operative credit societies were registered—the total number at the end of the year being 63 with a membership of 3,327 compared with 3,581 last year.

153. The receipts of the department increased from Rs. 1·99 lakhs last year to Rs. 3·11 lakhs while expenditure fell from Rs. 3·17 lakhs to Rs. 3·15 lakhs. **Finance**

FORESTS (1922-23)

[*Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year ending the 31st March 1923; Statistics of British India, Vol. II, Financial Statistics, Part II, Forests*]

154. During the year to a large extent the policy of the Forest department was one of "marking time." This was partly due to the necessity for economy and partly because a forward policy in the development and exploitation of the valuable timber forests could not be initiated until the arrival of the recently appointed Chief Forest Engineer. In furtherance of the policy of enlisting public opinions in support of measures of local forest conservancy two committees were appointed for the districts of Kurnool and Chittoor consisting of the local Forest officers, the Members of Legislative Council and other influential gentlemen. The Conservators of Forests, Second and Third Circles, respectively, presided over these committees. The system of placing Class V forests under the management of panchayats has been further extended by the agency of a special staff created for this purpose. In the department's unceasing warfare with fire, the system of early burning referred to on page 181 of the administration report for 1921–22 has been extended. The year's work in sylviculture was marked by special attention to a policy of clear felling succeeded by the creation of plantations of seedlings in valuable deciduous forests where complete regeneration cannot be secured by merely aiding Nature's processes. Experimental work was carried out by a Forest Research Officer for eleven months of the year and useful information, chiefly on the evergreen species, was obtained. With regard to the Chentsus, the policy laid down by Government was that efforts to reform the younger generation by means of education should be continued, that regular and suitable employment should be provided, that due respect for law and order should be maintained in order to control the criminal propensities of the Chentsus and to afford adequate protection to the servants of Government employed among them. Measures calculated to give effect to this policy were initiated. It was further decided that all expenditure in connexion with the Chentsus should be met from the Forest budget. It is interesting to note that the construction of a well in one Chentsu hamlet has freed the inhabitants from the attacks of the guinea worm. **General**

155. During the year under review there was a net increase of 202 square miles in the area of reserved forests which at the end of the year amounted to 19,064 square miles, while the area of reserved lands, owing to the operation of forest settlement, decreased from 442 to 192 square miles. The main cause of the increase in the area of reserved forests was the final settlement under the Forest Act of the Nugur block in the Bhadrāchalam Agency. About 48 square miles in various districts were disforested to provide for the extension of cultivation. About 84½ miles were demarcated during the year chiefly in the districts of Chingleput, Upper Gōdāvari, Salem South, and Wynaad at a cost of Rs. 3,277. Six hundred and eighty-four miles remained to be demarcated at the close of the year, chiefly in South Salem, Kollegal, North Coimbatore and Madura. A Survey of India Party was at work in the Cherla range of the Upper **Area** **Demarcation** **Survey**

Gōdāvari division in connexion with the survey of some great Trigonometrical stations, and another surveyed 289 square miles of reserves in the Anantapur, West Cuddapah and Chittoor divisions.

Management

Working plans

156. Working plans for an area of 80 square miles and a working scheme for the Coringa mangrove forests in the Lower Gōdāvari division were sanctioned. To meet the demands of the villagers for agricultural implements and small timber, tentative schemes were prepared and sanctioned for certain areas in Kollegal and North and South Coimbatore.

Roads and communications

Two hundred and four miles of roads were constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,37,605 and 1,242 miles were repaired at a cost of Rs. 95,504. One of the two roads in the Javadi Hills was completed and only a small quantity of work is necessary to complete the other. Progress in the construction of the Mount Stuart Ghat road was again poor owing to trouble with contractors and to the malarious nature of the locality.

Buildings

The total expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 1·62 lakhs against Rs. 2·52 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 17,006 was spent during the year on the reconstruction and restoration of buildings at Nilambūr which were damaged during the Mappilla rebellion. In the Chenat Nayar exploitation division the total amount spent on new construction and on repairs was Rs. 15,861. Miscellaneous buildings such as inspection bungalows, range offices, ranger's quarters and subordinates' lines were constructed in various divisions.

Other works

A sum of Rs. 12,644 was spent on the construction and repair of tanks and wells and on the improvement of water-supply in forests. Some work in the direction of improving grazing grounds and providing watering facilities for cattle was done during the year. In the third circle the people were encouraged to construct and improve watering places, with the result that a new pool was constructed by private agency and an old pool was repaired at a cost of Rs. 700.

Forest conservancy

157. Though there was an increase in the number of forest offences of all kinds, this is to be attributed to an increase in the vigilance of the protective staff, rather than to any increase in lawlessness. While the number of cases taken to court was actually less than last year, the

Offences

number of cases compounded was larger. Of the 30,878 cases disposed of during the year, 7,491 cases were taken to court, 20,790 cases were compounded and 2,597 cases were withdrawn. Of the cases disposed of by magistrates, 6,149 ended in conviction and 1,342 in acquittal, the percentage of failure being nearly 18 per cent. Cases compounded after they were taken on a magistrate's file were shown as acquittals. The increase in the number of offences was greatest under the head of unauthorized felling. The amount of compounding fees realized during the year was Rs. 2,72,080. The average fee in each case was Rs. 13-5-7 as against Rs. 13-7-4 in the previous year, and for each person Rs. 6-3-6 as against Rs. 6-2-1.

Fire protection

158. The system of early-burning, to which reference was made above, was considerably extended. The results are reported to be satisfactory. Statistics are only available for the calendar year 1922. The total area to which it was attempted to give special protection was 5,480 square miles of which 597 square miles (10·9 per cent) were burnt. During the previous year the figures were 5,844 square miles, 407 square miles and 7 per cent respectively. The increase in the damage done by fire is attributed to an unfavourable rainy season. After the close of the year the system of early burning was extended to Cuddapah district where the greatest damage was done. It is hoped that better results will be obtained in this district in future by the adoption of this system. This system is, however, a novel one in this district and at present is not liked by the people.

Sylviculture

159. A distinct advance was made during the year in sylvicultural work by the extension of systematic operations for the establishment of young crops of valuable species. Experience has shown that in valuable deciduous forests natural regeneration, however much it is assisted, is not to be relied upon to produce a sufficiency of young stock to take the

place of the mature timber removed in the course of selection fellings. Clear-felling followed by sowing or planting, and the efficient tending of the young crop so obtained, is the system now adopted in the teak forests of Mount Stuart (South Coimbatore), Wynaad and Mudumalai (Nilgiris). At Mount Stuart a young crop (almost entirely teak) has been established on 160 acres. The cost is comparatively high, but the forest is within easy reach of a market, which will probably absorb the produce of even the first thinnings, and returns commensurate with the expenditure on creation may be anticipated. In Wynaad 75 acres previously clear felled were sown with teak, but 50 per cent died. In Wynaad and the adjoining Nilgiri forests where markets are some fifty miles away, it is not feasible to spend so much on weeding or to sow at such a close espacement as is done at Mount Stuart. In these places, therefore, the experiment is being tried of sowing at the wide espacement of 12′ × 12′ which admits of the better cultivation of the soil round individual seedlings. The experiment of planting "stumps" is also being made; the elevation is somewhat great for teak and young seedlings grow slowly. The growth of "stumps" is considerably faster and it is hoped that the adoption of this system of planting may reduce the necessity of weeding to a minimum. Clear-fellings were also made in Upper Gōdāvari and Kurnool. The financial results of the fellings are so favourable that they justify expenditure on regeneration. Clear fellings continued in the Sal forests of Ganjām. In South Kanara some 2,500 acres of deciduous forest were sown with *Hopea parviflora* and *Artocarpus hirsuta* (chiefly the former). As a result of three years' cultural operations a young crop of great potential value has been established over an area of between 4,500 and 5,000 acres of forest, the old crop on which is badly grown and of poor quality. In this district also aid was given to the natural regeneration of Hopea. In the evergreen forest of Chenat Nair the regeneration is on the whole satisfactory. It remains to be seen whether the number of young seedlings which survive felling operations will be sufficient to provide an adequate young crop, or whether it will be necessary to supply deficiencies with seedlings. In Nilambūr division 165 acres, planted in 1921, which suffered from neglect during the Mappilla rebellion were restocked. In the evergreen forests of Tinnevelly experimental work on the regeneration of the evergreen species was continued on a considerable scale. Much was done to propagate sandal. In Anantapur and the Nilgiris regular dibbling on a small scale was continued with some success, while in Kollegal, North Coimbatore and some of the divisions of the third circle small patches were sown and watered with the object of constituting *foci* from which the seed will in course of time be spread by birds. The total amount spent on planting operations during the year was Rs. 76,090. In the previous year Rs. 56,049 were spent on the same branch of work. Cultural operations were carried out over an area of 10,475 acres at a cost of Rs. 20,620 and regular plantations were raised over an extent of 560 acres at a cost of Rs. 20,439.

Supply Timber

160. The output of timber during the year under review was 131,225 tons against 108,400 tons in the previous year. 29,375 tons were extracted by departmental agency and 95,200 tons by purchasers as against 20,825 and 81,675 tons, respectively, in the previous year. The increase in the quantity of timber extracted by departmental agency is mainly due to the resumption of operations in Nilambūr, suspended owing to the Mappilla rebellion, and to an increase in exploitation in South Kanara district and in the Chenat Nair forest (Palghat division). Most of the "Laurel wood" *(Terminalia tomentosa)* which was sent to London in 1921-22 was sold and though freights and other factors were unfavourable the average profit obtained was Rs. 3-6-0 per cubic foot as compared with the normal selling price at Pollachi of Rs. 1-8-0. Unfortunately owing to general trade depression there is no market for this wood at present. Messrs. Parry & Co. were the managing agents of the Russellkonda Saw Mill. Work was not in full swing till the month of July, owing to the necessity for testing the machines under working conditions and training local labour.

From sal logs measuring 126,571 cubic feet, 41,318 cubic feet, of first-clas sawn timber were obtained in addition to second-class timber and firewood. The total cost of production was Rs. 81,811 and the value of the timber sold and of the closing stock was Rs. 1,08,871. There is a steady demand for the timber which buyers describe as the best sawn sal on the markets to which it has penetrated. The outturn of this mill was however low and attention is being paid to remedying this by the more careful selection of the timber to be supplied to it. The financial result of work in the Chenat Nair Exploitation division was a deficit of Rs. 52,500 without including interest or depreciation. The cause of this deficit is that the larger portion of the forest crop in this reserve consists of little known timbers, the usefulness of which has yet to be demonstrated by experiment on a commercial scale and that exploitation has been practically confined to timbers for which a market is assured. Consequently both machinery and staff have been working below their capacity. Sixty-two thousand cubic feet of timber were supplied to the Kolar Gold Fields

Fuel

From various forests 21,033 tons of fuel were removed departmentally and 304,533 tons by purchasers. Prices of fuel in the large towns showed a tendency to decrease except in Tanjore and Madura where they remained stationary. The prices in Anantapur and Trichinopoly were Rs. 17–15–0 and Rs. 18 per ton, respectively, as against Rs. 22–4–0 and Rs. 23 in the previous year.

Bamboo

The total value of bamboos removed from the forests by all agencies during the year was Rs. 4·08 lakhs as against Rs. 3·21 lakhs in the previous year. It is anticipated that, owing to the almost universal flowering of the big bamboo *(Bambusa arundinacea)*, the revenue from this source will decrease materially in future. This bamboo appears to require some 12 to 15 years to grow into mature clumps.

Sandalwood

Four hundred and sixty-eight tons of sandalwood were sold for Rs. 5,54,358, at Satyamangalam (222 tons), and at Tiruppattūr and Vellore (246 tons). The average price realized was Rs. 1,182 per ton, an increase of Rs. 22 per ton on the previous year's price.

Grazing

About 21 per cent of the total area of forests in the Presidency were closed to grazing, either for the whole year (16·4 per cent) or for a part of the year (4·3 per cent). The areas closed were approximately the same as in the previous year. For grazing in the open area of 16,108 square miles permits were issued for 2,037,062 animals while 74,177 animals were allowed free grazing, the incidence being one cow unit to 4·08 acres as compared with 5·75 acres in the previous year. This increase is due to an increase of 327,394 in the number of animals licensed to graze. This latter increase was due in part to the revision of grazing schemes and in part to the other causes, among which the decline of the non-co-operation movement may probably be included. The revenue from grazing and fodder grass was Rs. 9,24,092. The revenue from the same source in 1921–22 was Rs. 7,89,731. A new grazing scheme is under trial in the Srīharikōta range, Nellore district. Great difficulty has been experienced in the past in capturing the semi-wild cattle roaming in the Srīharikōta forests and various attempts have been made to solve the problem but without success. Under the scheme to which reference has been made, a census is taken of all cattle frequenting the forests and villagers pay a lump sum calculated at 8 annas per cow unit per annum. The advantages of the system in a forest where the limitation of cattle is not essential are that prosecution for forest offences and the impounding of cattle are unnecessary with the result that a cause of friction between the villagers and the Forest Department is eliminated.

Right-holders

The estimated value of forest produce removed by free grantees and right-holders amounted to Rs. 62,207 as against Rs. 56,208 in the previous year.

Live-stock

Elephants

161. The number of elephants in charge of the department at the beginning of the year was 137 valued at Rs. 3,96,600, including four baggage elephants working in Upper Gōdāvari and Kurnool West Divisions. Thirty-two elephants were captured, 3 were born in captivity, 10 died, 49 were sold for Rs. 1,17,625 and the stud at the end of the year numbered 113 valued at Rs. 3,57,550. Capturing operations were conducted and resulted in 32 captures, viz., 9 in Nilgiris, 14 in Wynaad, 2 in Nilambūr

and 7 in South Coimbatore. Of the South Coimbatore captures, six were caught in the Tekkadi leased forests and under the terms of the agreement with the Kollengode Raja, four were sold to him for half their value, one elephant being retained by the department on payment of half its value. The remaining one died. The total value of the elephants captured is at least Rs. 50,000. The stock of buffaloes and bullocks at the beginning of the year numbered 267, of which 63 died or were sold. Twenty-one animals were purchased and two were confiscated in a forest case in South Kurnool and added to the stud. The stock at the end of the year numbered 227 and its book value was Rs. 18,577. Cattle

162. A special panchayat staff was at work in 11 districts in the Presidency. Out of 966 square miles of class V forests in these districts, 586 square miles (60 per cent of the total) were placed under panchayat management. Thirty-eight new panchayats for the management of 68 square miles of class V forests were formed during the year by the special panchayat staff. A liberal policy was adopted in fixing the assessments and the people in general showed themselves to be anxious to undertake the management of class V forests. Some considerable financial saving was effected by the substitution of panchayat for departmental management. There were several instances of the purchase of coupes by co-operative societies. One society, whose members were Adi-Dravidas, constructed a cart-track into the felling area. The panchayat management of the class II forests in the Tiruvannāmalai range under the forest village system continued to work very satisfactorily. One Forest Officer, indeed, on visiting a village, where, before the introduction of this system, he had been invariably met with grievances and complaints, was received with tom-toms, music, and eulogies of the Forest Department. **Forest panchayats**

163. Twenty-nine students passed out of the college in 1923, of whom fourteen were from Madras. Ten students were granted Honours certificates (an unprecedentedly large number), fourteen obtained Higher standard certificates and five Lower standard certificates. There were no failures. **Forest College**

164. The total gross revenue during the year amounted to Rs. 52·73 lakhs against Rs. 48·57 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure debited to the Forest Department (including a loss of Rs. 20,472 by exchange transactions in England) was Rs. 47·89 lakhs as against Rs. 51·59 lakhs in the previous year. The result was a surplus of Rs. 4·84 lakhs as compared with a deficit of Rs. 3·72 lakhs in the previous year. The Forest College worked at a loss of Rs. 1·05 lakhs. General direction cost Rs. 2·03 lakhs and the special panchayat staff, Rs. ·18 lakh. **Finance**

MINES (1922)

[*G.O. No. 822, Development, dated the 7th June 1923 ; Statistics of British India, Vol. I, Commercial Statistics—Mineral Production*]

165. As in the previous year mining was carried on in the districts of Vizagapatam, Nellore, Anantapur, Salem and Kurnool, the minerals raised being manganese, magnesite, mica, gold and barytes. The Alagilawada manganese mines in the Bellary district were also worked for a short time during the year. Messrs. Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co. were prospecting for diamonds in the Sattenapalle taluk of Guntūr district. The company made some progress but no diamonds have yet been discovered. Owing to the closure of the mines at Parapi, Garuja, Perumalai and Avagudem in the Vizagapatam district and to the inability of the proprietors of the mines in the Bellary district to organize work on systematic lines, there was a considerable decrease in the production of manganese, the output being 10,845 tons as against 16,593 tons in the previous year. The output of magnesite increased **Output**

from 17,152 tons to 18,417 tons owing to the larger quantity won from the Salem magnesite works (Government Hills). The mica trade was remarkably dull throughout the year and the quantity of mica raised decreased from 222 tons to 83 tons. The decrease was due to the closing down of a large number of mines in the Nellore district. Two gold mines were at work during the year. From a total quantity of 4,480 tons of quartz mined during the year 8,387·95 ounces (troy) of gold and 554·00 ounces (troy) of silver were extracted as against 10,108 ounces (troy) of gold and 619 ounces (troy) of silver respectively in the previous year. The output of steatite was nil.

General condition of the employees

166. Kurnool, Salem, Bellary, Vizagapatam and Nellore were free from epidemics during the year. In the Anantapur district one case of smallpox and one case of mumps occurred in one of the mines; the other two mines were free from epidemics. The general health of the employees during the year was satisfactory.

Wages

In Vizagapatam the rates of wages were practically the same as in the previous year. In Nellore high rates again prevailed but there was a slight decrease in the rate of wages paid to the employees in North Anantapur gold mines and the Jubitil gold mines.

Employment of women and children

In Vizagapatam, Salem (magnesite mines) and Nellore, both women and children were employed underground. In the barytes mine at Ballapalli in Kurnool district women did not work underground but children did. In other barytes mines in Kurnool district, in the gold mines in Anantapur and in the mica mines in Salem neither women nor children were employed in work underground.

Accidents

Three accidents occurred in the gold mines, Anantapur, and one case proved fatal. There were no accidents in Vizagapatam, Salem, Kurnool and Nellore.

MANUFACTURES (1922-23)

[*Statement of Cotton and Jute Mills at work in the Presidency during the year 1922-23 (G.O. No. 967, Development, dated the 10th July 1923); Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act during the year 1922 (G.O. No. 940, Development, dated the 3rd July 1923); Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1922-23; Statistics of British India, Vol. I, Commercial Statistics*]

Cotton and jute mills (1922-23)

167. The number of cotton mills which worked in the Presidency during the year was 21, the same as that in the previous year. Of these, three were in the French Settlement of Pondicherry and one each in the Travancore and Cochin States. Employment was afforded to 34,845 operatives as compared with 34,400 in last year. With three exceptions, the concerns were carried on as joint stock companies. The plant in use consisted of nearly 5,619 looms and 474,528 spindles. There were 4 jute mills, employing 4,280 operatives and utilizing 496 looms and 11,088 spindles; and of these, only three mills were at work throughout the year. All were joint stock companies.

Minor industries (1922)

168. At the close of the year 1922, the number of factories, other than jute mills and factories relating to cotton industry, in the Madras Presidency coming under the amended Indian Factories Act, 1922, was 553, of which 528 were perennial and 25 seasonal. The average daily number of operatives employed in these factories was 63,127 as against 58,568 in the previous year, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. The chief industries among those classed as "factories" under the Factories Act and actually carried on during the year 1922 were: Railway workshops, rice mills, tile factories, printing presses, sugar factories, coffee works, rope works, leather works and tanneries, kerosene tinning and packing works, iron, brass and steel foundries, motor works and coach building works, bone and oil mills, saw mills and tobacco factories.

Factories (1922)

169. The Department of Factories continued to be under the control of the Commissioner of Labour. There were 769 factories on the list of registered factories at the end of the year, the number at the end of the previous year being 545. This increase in registration is largely due to the extensive provisions of the amended Factories Act. Of the 769 factories, 548 are perennial and 221 are seasonal factories. Twenty perennial and 196 seasonal factories are connected with the cotton industry. Twenty-four factories were closed against work and 745 were in commission during the year. The average number of operatives employed in these 745 factories was 110,193, the total number employed in 1921 in all factories being 102,341. The actual number is probably much higher as mill owners in the majority of cases omit to include contract coolies. The increase was due to the increase in the number of registered factories. Of the 110,193 operatives, 5,483 were employed in Government and Local Fund factories. The number of work people employed in cotton spinning and weaving mills was 28,268, and 3,155 were employed in jute spinning and weaving mills. The total numbers of women, boys, and girls employed in 1922 were 20,355, 4,775 and 2,549, respectively. That these numbers are larger than in 1921 is almost solely due to the increase in the number of registered factories. Under the amending Act the minimum and maximum ages for children have been raised from 9 and 14 to 12 and 15 years, respectively. Of the 745 factories that were working during the year, 359 were inspected once, 346 twice and 25 thrice. The number of inspections was 1,126 as against 866 in the previous year. In addition to inspections, 344 visits were made to unregistered factories and ten factories coming under the provisions of the Act were discovered. Fifty-nine visits were made to factories by night. Twenty-four surprise visits (Sunday) were made by the Inspector of Factories (Northen Circle), resulting in three convictions being obtained, and in application being made for prosecution in seven cases. The health of the operatives was generally good. In addition to factories where medical aid was already provided, 14 factories opened dispensaries, one provided first aid appliances and an ambulance hand-cart in addition and in another first aid appliances were provided. The sanitation of factories was generally satisfactory, but prosecutions were instituted in two cases and convictions obtained. On the whole, rates of wages varied very little from those of 1921. There were 17 strikes during the year, of which 9 occurred in Madras City. They each lasted from 2 hours to 30 days and about half of the employees in the factories affected came out. In eight cases the strikes collapsed, in four cases the workmen were dismissed, in one increase of wages was promised and four were compromised. The causes of the strikes were different in each case, some of them were unreasonable. In one case where the owner was installing electric motors to replace steam, the work people thought that profits would go up, so they demanded increased wages before the substitution was complete. There were six fires during the year, but no loss of life or injury to any person occurred. The number of accidents that occurred during the year was 881 as against 991 during 1921. The average per 100 operatives employed also dropped from ·97 to ·80. Of the 13 fatal and 6 serious accidents, 8 of the former and 5 of the latter were caused by machinery driven by mechanical power. The major portion of the accidents occurred in railway workshops. This was probably due to the fact that every accident, however slight, is seen by the Company's doctor, who in many cases as a matter of precaution certifies that 48 hours off duty is necessary although the accident is trivial. Again in railway workshops there is more machinery for persons employed than in other factories. Welfare work was started by some firms, and in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, Madras, a Welfare Committee consisting of 20 representatives of the work people and four European officers representing the departmental heads with two among the labour representatives as Secretaries was formed. This committee which meets once a fortnight has proved of great value in maintaining a good understanding between the management and their employees. Workmen's stores have also been opened in these and other factories.

Industries (1922-23)

General

170. The most important event of the year in connexion with industrial policy in the Presidency was the passing of the State Aid to Industries Act. Provision of Rs. 8 lakhs for grant of loans under this Act was made in the Budget for 1923 24. There were two meetings of the Board of Industries during the year. Two important committees were appointed during the year, namely, the Committee on Technical and Industrial Education and the Leather Industry Committee. The first submitted its report shortly before the close of the year. The Department of Industries participated in industrial exhibitions held at Tiruppur, Cuddalore and other places in the south of India, exhibiting soap, ink, glue, finished leather from the Government Leather Trades Institute, Madras, slays with double and quadruple shuttle box, and other weaving appliances as well as a hand-boring set.

General assistance

The number of inquiries on industrial and commercial questions that were received in the Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information continued to be very large. Many of these referred to the sources of supply and the markets for the various articles and commodities. A considerable number of references from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, were received. A number of analyses of minerals and materials were carried out for private parties. The difficulties which dyers experienced during and since the war in obtaining their requirements of dyes seem entirely to have disappeared. Efforts were made to obtain up-to-date information with regard to the channels of the trade in "palampores," ornamental cotton prints, which are manufactured at Masulipatam. The result of the boring operations, with regard to coal, conducted in the Beddadnole area have not, so far, proved encouraging. Through information supplied by the department, a West Coast firm executed a large order for the supply of fish oil on a contract made with the Controller of Contracts, Simla. The Meenakshi Paper Mills received further Government orders. The interest of a London firm of standing in the Kistna crochet lace industry, which was suffering from the severe competition of cheap machine-made lace, was secured. Representations on question of freight charges were made to various railway administrations on behalf of firms with complete or partial success in each case.

Industrial research

The experiments in crushing phosphatic nodules did not warrant the establishment of a departmental factory and it was decided to throw open a few blocks of the nodule area to private enterprise. Sir Frederick Nicholson is engaged in studying the toy industry in the United Kingdom with a view to advise as to the lines on which the industry could be developed in Madras. A report on the indigenous bangle industry was submitted to Government. Investigations were made into the available supplies of eeta (a bamboo-like reed) and other kinds of reeds suitable for the manufacture of matches.

Chemical research

During the year under review the Industrial Chemist continued to work in the laboratories of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Investigations in regard to the utilizations of limes and tamarind as sources of citric and tartaric acids, respectively, were completed. As a result of conclusions based on an enquiry into the practicability of exploiting the alkaline deposits (psoudu) of the Kistna and Gōdāvari districts, Government were advised that the process would be commercially unremunerative. Enquiries into the processes of coir production also were continued. The investigations into the possibility of manufacturing malted foods were transferred to this department from the Department of Agriculture. Miscellaneous enquiries on many and varied questions were also answered.

Government establishments

There was a reduction in the out-turn and turn-over of the Kerala Soap Institute, due mainly to a marked falling off in the demand for vegetol owing to the introduction of spurious imitations at prices with which the factory could not compete. The profit and loss statements showed a loss of Rs. 23,320-12-5 on the year's working. It is hoped that when commercial manufacture has been organized in the new factory, it will be possible both to increase the output and recover the valuable bye-product glycerine. The ink factory showed a loss of Rs. 825-12-11 on the year's working which is attributable mainly to interruption of work consequent on the transfer of the factory from Coonoor to Madras. Researches were

carried out in the Minor Industries laboratory in connexion with the manufacture of saponin from indigenous materials, the estimation of pectin and sugar in fruits, etc., and in the manufacture of indelible and copying inks. The construction of the jam-factory buildings at the Government Fruit Preserving Institute was completed, and jam-making operations were started. The Glue Factory worked at a loss of Rs. 14,458–10–5 for the first 15 months' working. This is explained by the difficulty experienced in finding a market for an output sufficiently large to make the factory pay. Experiments on bone glue were concluded. Nine weaving parties toured the country introducing new implements and methods, while one party was employed in Madras under the direct supervision of the Textile Expert in the construction, manipulation and demonstration of new appliances. All sericultural operations including the control of the industry and the actual supervision of the mulberry growing and silk farms were transferred to the Department of Industries. Sericultural operations have been initiated in four localities. The number of loans granted for the purpose of installing pumping machinery during the year was 9 as against 5 in the previous year. Thirty-nine installations were undertaken by the department and 286 were plants maintained by them at the owner's cost. Pumping sets were also supplied. The total depth bored during the year was 20,640 feet as against 20,358 in 1921-22. Blasting operations by means of torpedo sets were also carried out. Two surveyors were employed on the task of mapping underground water supplies. About 199 miles of levels were taken and 362 borings were connected with mean sea level.

Sericulture

Pumping and boring

171. One holder of a State technical scholarship entered the University of Birmingham to pursue his studies. The scholarships of four others were extended on the recommendation of the High Commissioner for India for another year in order to enable them to complete their studies to the best advantage. Eight new scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, were awarded during the year. The number of scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, was increased from three to six. Sixty new scholarships tenable for a period of five years were as usual awarded to pupils learning a trade in any of the recognized industrial schools. The Madura Industrial Institute continued its activities and the continuance of the Madras Trades School for another year was sanctioned. The number of students increased from 145 to 217. The branch of the Trades School attached to the Railway workshops at Perambur continued to do good work and 120 apprentices employed in the works received instruction in this school. The number of industrial schools assisted by the Government during the year was 42 as against 38 in the previous year and the number of pupils under training was 1,928 as against 1,748. An amount of Rs. 62,665–10–0 was disbursed to these institutions in the form of grants-in-aid. The finances of many of these institutions continue to suffer severely from unfavourable exchange rates. The number of pupils on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts at the end of the year was 305 of whom 15 were females. The average attendance was 191 and the average number on the rolls 259. Thirty scholarships varying in value from Rs. 5 to Rs. 15 per month were sanctioned, the greatest number being in woodwork. The volume of work produced declined owing to the reduction in the budget allotment under the heads of wages and materials. Out of 152 students who appeared for the Government Technical examinations, 88, or 58 per cent, passed. The percentage of success in these examinations has decreased in the last three years. Fourteen of the students who left the school in 1922–23, obtained employment.

Industrial education

Aided schools

School of Arts and Crafts

172. The receipts and charges of the year decreased from Rs. 2,86,644-2-8 to Rs. 2,82,522–1–10 and from Rs. 11,49,593–14–2 to Rs. 10,02,666–12–6, respectively, and the net cost from Rs. 8,62,949–11–6 to Rs. 7,20,144–10–8. The decrease in expenditure is due partly to the reduced cost of the re-organized district staff and partly to the exercise of strict economy.

Finance

LABOUR 1922–23)

[*Fourth Report on the Administration of the Labour Department for the year 1922–23*]

General

173. The work of the department during the year included the administration of the Indian Factories Act and the control of factories, the investigation of labour and economic problems, the general advancement of the depressed classes and the control of the various criminal tribes which have been located in settlements. The work in connexion with the Factories Act has already been reviewed in the section on Manufactures which immediately precedes this section.

Labour

174. The labour situation remained quiet throughout the year. There were but few strikes and those which occurred were of little importance. Some efforts were made to revive the activities of the unions but met with little success. Welfare committees were started in several factories and that in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills continued to do excellent work during the year. The Labour Advisory Board met three times during the year and discussed various questions connected with the welfare of labour and the settlement of industrial disputes. The quinquennial census of wages which was taken in 1921 and tabulated during the year showed that on the whole the wages of artizans, ploughmen and other agricultural labourers have risen in recent years.

Depressed classes

175. Special staffs continued to work during the year in Tanjore, Gōdāvari, Chingleput and South Arcot. Consequent on the abolishing of the posts of Assistant Labour Commissioners at the beginning of April 1922, the staff in these districts worked without immediate supervision until the end of August 1922, when Special Ṭahsildars were appointed with the title of District Labour Officers to work under the immediate control of the Collectors concerned. Considerable progress was made in all branches of this ameliorative work during the year in each of these four districts. Land suitable for house-sites was acquired and divided into convenient plots, communications were improved and educational facilities increased. Large blocks of land were also reserved for and assigned to depressed classes—as much as 2,173·13 acres being so reserved in Tanjore taluk alone. On the recommendation of the Commissioner, Government sanctioned the extension of these operations of the Labour department to the districts of Kistna, Guntūr, Trichinopoly, Bellary and South Kanara and work in each of these districts has now been begun. In order to improve the condition of cheris in the City of Madras, the Commissioner convened a meeting of the social workers in the city and assigned to each of them certain cheris to inspect and report on the improvements which should be carried out. These reports have now been received and it is hoped that substantial work will be carried out during the current year.

Criminal tribes settlements

176. The working of the settlements was on the whole satisfactory. It has been decided to close the penal settlement at Guntūr and to institute a similar settlement at Kavali, as many as possible of the present inmates of the latter settlement being transferred to Bitragunta and Allur, where land is available which will provide suitable employment for them. The Bhumannagedda settlement will also be closed and the inmates transferred to the Stuartpuram and Kavali settlements. Particular attention is being devoted to the education of the children in all the settlements, each of which possesses a school which all children of school-going age are required to attend.

Finance

177. A sum of Rs. 4,86,000 was allotted to the Labour department during the year. Of this sum Rs. 1,25,000 were appropriated for free grants and Rs. 1,00,000 for educational charges for depressed classes. A further sum of Rs. 3,25,000 was separately provided under "Loans" for the acquisition of house-sites. Of these amounts Rs. 1,02,991 were expended

for free grants, Rs. 87,043 for education and Rs. 3,00,857 for loans. The entire amounts could not be spent since the lines on which the department should conduct its operations were not settled until September 1922.

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1922 23)

[*Review of the Sea-bo Trnerade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1922–23; Annual Volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistics of British India, Vol. I, Commercial Statistics—Foreign Trade and Shipping; Review of the Trade of India. Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India. Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 Vols.; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India*]

General summary

178. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency was Rs. 80·46 crores, an increase of Rs. 6·63 crores or 9 per cent as compared with the previous year. The state of the market did not recover from last year's depression as was hoped, owing chiefly to the disturbed state of continental exchanges. In the export trade the prospects at the beginning of the year were good, exchange was steady centering around 1*s.* 4*d.* and the monsoon had proved bountiful. The dislocation of the continental exchanges, however, prevented that general revival in exports of which the satisfactory conditions at the beginning of the year had raised hopes. The first two months of the year nevertheless showed a very favourable balance of trade amounting to Rs. 2·05 crores, and although this figure was not maintained, June was the only month which showed an unfavourable balance. The year closed with a favourable balance of Rs. 8·04 crores against a balance of Rs. 3·81 crores of the preceding year. This clearly proves that given stability in the foreign exchanges a general revival in trade will not be long delayed.

Foreign trade

179. The total value of foreign trade in private merchandise increased by Rs. 3·28 crores or 7 per cent as compared with the previous year. Imports valued at Rs. 20·29 crores were Rs. 0·59 crore or 3 per cent less than 1921–22, while exports increased by Rs. 3·86 crores or 16 per cent to Rs. 28·53 crores. The decrease under imports was due to smaller receipts of railway materials, cotton twist and yarn, coal, sugar, instruments and dyes, the chief items showing increases being cotton manufactures, metals, machinery, paper and paste board, precious stones, raw silk apparel, glassware and rubber manufactures. The value of imports of cotton twist and yarn declined by Rs. 86·25 lakhs or 37 per cent, while that of cotton piece-goods increased by Rs. 79·13 lakhs or 33 per cent. The decrease under the former was the result of a steady decline under coloured yarn attributable to the revival of country dyeing made possible by larger imports of cheap German dyes. In the case of cotton piece-goods there were heavy stocks in 1921 which were considerably reduced at the beginning of 1922, and the dealers and merchants were once again able to turn their attention to fresh business especially as at that time the price of cotton was comparatively cheap. There was a strong demand for all qualities especially of grey goods during the period from April to September 1922. Good profits were made and every one taking advantage of the low prices was induced to buy. Then, however, the bottom seemed to drop out of the market and since October the demand has been poor, stocks have been piled up and losses were made. The United Kingdom supplied 98 per cent of the cotton goods imported, the remainder being distributed among other countries. The value of imports of railway materials fell by Rs. 98·20 lakhs, the decrease being due partly to the abnormal figure of last year and partly to a fall in the price of articles during the year. The value of metals imported during the year increased by Rs. 50·95 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 3·86 crores under exports was caused by larger

Foreign imports

Foreign exports

shipments of seeds, leather, raw cotton, tea, coir manufactures, spices, cotton manufactures, oils and metallic ores, partly set off by smaller shipments of raw rubber, drugs and medicines, raw skins, coffee, dyeing and tanning substances and cotton twist and yarn. Owing to the abundance of available tonnage there was a revival of the export trade in seeds which showed an expansion of 24 per cent in quantity and 30 per cent in value as compared with the previous year. More than 82 per cent of the total trade in seeds consisted of groundnuts which rose by Rs. 86·11 lakhs or 16 per cent as a result of larger demand from France. Shipments of castor seeds improved by Rs. 48·58 lakhs and those of copra by Rs. 39·11 lakhs. There was a considerable revival in the trade of tanned hides and skins, the value of those exported during the year being Rs. 170·01 lakhs as against Rs. 84·65 lakhs last year, an increase of 101 per cent. At the beginning of the year, business with London was fairly good owing to a total clearance of Government stocks. There has been a slow but steady recovery throughout the year and prices have steadily advanced. Similarly higher prices ruling both in England and America for tanned skins during the early part of the period under review induced larger shipments which rose by Rs. 25·83 lakhs to Rs. 239·31 lakhs. The quantity of raw cotton shipped was slightly less than the previous year's figure though an increase in price raised the value by 33 per cent. The decrease in volume was the result of a smaller demand from Japan. Depletion of stocks and larger consumption led to a greater demand for tea in England where better prices ruled. Shipments increased by Rs. 24·46 lakhs in value. Exports of raw rubber declined from Rs. 52·92 lakhs to Rs. 39·39 lakhs owing to a worldwide slump in prices. The total value of re-exports amounted to Rs. 39·81 lakhs as against Rs. 27·68 lakhs.

Government transactions

180. The total value of the Government stores imported and exported amounted to Rs. 32·92 lakhs and Rs. 1·50 lakhs, respectively, as compared with Rs. 32·44 lakhs and Rs. 0·47 lakh in the previous year. Under imports cotton piece-goods improved by Rs. 3·42 lakhs, woollen piece-goods by Rs. 2·33 lakhs and chemicals by Rs. 1·08 lakhs, while metals and machinery declined by Rs. 4·80 lakhs and Rs. 1·70 lakhs, respectively.

Treasure

181. Imports of treasure amounted to Rs. 22·94 lakhs as against Rs. 0·97 lakh. Imports of gold consisting of sovereigns from Western Australia, the Straits Settlements and the United Kingdom and other coins from the Straits amounted to Rs. 22·16 lakhs, and imports of silver representing mostly bullion from the United Kingdom Rs. 0·78 lakh. Exports of treasure were valued at Rs. 2·31 lakhs, of which Rs. 0·60 lakh represented chiefly the value of gold sovereigns and Rs. 1·66 lakhs Government of India rupees.

Trade by countries

182. The trade with the United Kingdom represented 44·21 per cent of the total trade as compared with 44·18 per cent in 1921–22 and expanded by Rs. 1·46 crores or 7 per cent to Rs. 21·58 crores in value. The trade with the British Empire was 64 per cent of the total trade as against 65 per cent in the previous year and that with foreign countries 36 per cent, Europe claiming 24 per cent, Asia 6 per cent and America 6 per cent as against 21, 7 and 7 per cent in 1921-22.

Coasting trade

183. The aggregate value of the coasting trade improved from Rs. 27·92 crores to Rs. 31·04 crores. Imports of Indian merchandise improved from Rs. 1,508·68 lakhs to Rs. 1,673·34 lakhs, while those of foreign merchandise declined from Rs. 251 lakhs to Rs. 243·20 lakhs. Exports of Indian and foreign merchandise amounted to Rs. 1,152·06 lakhs and Rs. 12·46 lakhs as against Rs. 990·22 lakhs and Rs. 22·71 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year.

Trade by ports

184. The value of the sea-borne trade on private account at the port of Madras represented 46 per cent of the total trade of the Presidency as compared with 47 per cent in the previous year and amounted to Rs. 36·58 crores as against Rs. 34·76 crores, an increase of Rs. 1·82 crores or 5 per cent. Foreign trade improved from Rs. 27·27 crores to Rs. 28·88 crores or 6 per cent. The total foreign trade of the outports improved from Rs. 18·31

crores to Rs. 20·19 crores. Tuticorin recovered its position as the first among outports, which it had lost two years ago in favour of Cochin.

Shipping

185. The total number of vessels entered from, and cleared to, foreign ports declined from 2,685 to 2,678 but their tonnage increased from 3·06 million tons to 3·42 million tons. British vessels amounted to 79 per cent of the whole tonnage and British Indian and native craft to 3 per cent. The total tonnage of foreign vessels improved from 14 to 18 per cent. The freight rates on general cargo had a drop of about Rs. 10 at the end of July 1922. In the case of groundnuts the highest rate (32*s.* 6*d.*) prevailed both at the beginning and end of the year and the lowest rate 25*s.* was in July 1922. The number of entries from coasting ports rose from 16,691 vessels of 5,717,988 tons to 17,089 of 6,790,667 tons. The number of clearances to coasting ports was 17,332 of 6,725,621 tons as against 16,659 of 5,539,784 tons in 1921–22. Seventeen vessels aggregating 550 tons were built and registered during the year, the previous year's figures being 12 vessels of 540 tons.

Miscellaneous.

186. The total revenue receipts for the Presidency rose from Rs. 215·20 lakhs to Rs. 315·47 lakhs or by 46 per cent as a result of the revisions in the Tariff schedule by which the rates of duty were enhanced from March 1922. The total disbursements of the Customs department throughout the Presidency amounted to Rs. 12,84,765 as compared with Rs. 10,33,446 in 1921–22. The number of cases dealt with under the Sea Customs Act (including those under the Merchandize Marks Act) during the year was 1,363 as against 1,564 in the previous year. Of these, 731 cases occurred at the Chief Port and 632 at the outports. Attempts at smuggling jewellery became more frequent as the duty was enhanced ; one case was detected at Madras and 7 cases at Dhanushkodi. At Madras there were seven cases of smuggling of opium and one case of cocaine. There were many cases of smuggling of gold thread and matches at the land frontiers of Pondicherry and Karikal. There was also a case of exportation of birds' feathers at the Madras port in contravention of section 18 of the Sea Customs Act.

PUBLIC WORKS

GENERAL (1922–23)

[*Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1922–23*]

Administrative changes

187. During the year under review, the executive subordinate services of the Public Works Department were reorganized, the old graded system of pay giving place to an incremental scale of pay. The pay of the temporary upper subordinate establishment was also revised so as to absorb the temporary additions to pay which were granted in the year 1921 to meet the increased cost of living. The year was marked by the rigorous enforcement of the policy of retrenchment in all classes of establishment employed in the Public Works Department, by the abolition of one circle of superintendence, 11 divisions and 25 subdivisions (permanent and temporary), the reduction in the sanctioned strength of the Madras Engineering Service from 106 to 75, the abolition of the appointments of Assistant Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, and Assistant Superintendent, Public Works Workshops, Madras, and also by the reduction in the cadre of the upper subordinate establishment from 260 to 194. The work of the divisions and subdivisions abolished was distributed among the remaining divisions and subdivisions in the respective circles. One hundred and twenty-four temporary upper subordinates were also discharged. Proposals were submitted during the year for reduction in the cadre of the Indian Service of Engineers which have since received the sanction of the Secretary of State.

Chief Engineer's office

Consulting Architect's section

188. The Consulting Architect section was engaged in its normal work of preparing drawings and estimates for buildings. The Special Consulting Architect, who was appointed in 1920, continued to work during the year. Three hundred and fourteen drawings of schemes estimated to cost about Rs. 16 lakhs were drawn up in this section. Among these schemes the housing scheme in the Madras City and the Lady Willingdon Leper Settlement at Tirumani, Chingleput, deserve mention.

Technical section

In the technical section, 79 estimates of an aggregate value of Rs. 117·5 lakhs were scrutinized; of these, 53 totalling Rs. 39·93 lakhs related to buildings, 6 aggregating to Rs. 10·51 lakhs to water-supply, 2 totalling Rs. 39·94 lakhs to drainage, 5 totalling Rs. 7·64 lakhs to roads and 11 totalling Rs. 18·36 to bridges and causeways. There were in addition two miscellaneous schemes of a value of Rs. 1·14 lakhs.

Electrical section

Among the estimates, there were 27 of which the estimated cost was over one lakh of rupees each. Electricity has gained popularity both in the Madras City and the mufassal. Licences for the supply of electrical energy have already been granted to the towns of Bellary, Cochin, Bezwada and Ootacamund, and requests for licences for Madura, Trichinopoly and Kanadukattan were under the consideration of Government. The new Indian Electricity Rules, 1922, under the amended Act came into force from 1st August 1922. Under the New Rules, the powers of licensees are increased in various directions and to safeguard the consumer, the licensee's conditions of supply are brought under Government control. The Electrical Engineer scrutinized 134 estimates of an aggregate value of Rs. 3·30 lakhs. The expenditure on original works was Rs. 1·03 lakhs as against Rs. 2·11 lakhs in the previous year. The total value of all the Government installations in charge of this department is Rs. 18·54 lakhs and the amount spent on their maintenance apart from the actual consumption charges was Rs. 1·15 lakhs as against Rs. 1·48 lakhs in the previous year. The short expenditure during the year both on original works and repairs was due largely to a comparatively smaller provision on account of the retrenchment policy.

CIVIL WORKS (1922-23)

Works in progress

Buildings

189. The total expenditure on civil works for the year, including expenditure from contributions and on minor works and repairs, was Rs. 68·07 lakhs as against Rs. 83·44 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease was due to a comparatively smaller provision for the year and also to short out-turn on deposit works. A sum of Rs. ·70 lakh was spent on the construction of the New Civil Hospital at Vizagapatam, the total expenditure to date on the work having been Rs. 5·81 lakhs against the estimate of Rs. 6·12 lakhs. The several main blocks which had so far been sanctioned were completed and the hospital occupied by the medical department. On the work of extensions to the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, there was an expenditure of Rs. ·86 lakh. The work of constructing quarters for the Special Police, Malabar, was practically completed with a total outlay of Rs. 1·30 lakhs against the estimate of Rs. 1·50 lakhs. The several buildings of the St. George's Homes, Keti, were practically completed with a total outlay of Rs. 4·44 lakhs to end of the year against the estimated cost of Rs. 4·61 lakhs and handed over to the authorities of the Homes. The new Rāyapuram Hospital was also almost completed with a total expenditure of Rs. 11·45 lakhs. On the scheme of hostel accommodation for the Rāyapuram Medical School pupils, which is estimated to cost Rs. 4·72 lakhs, there was an expenditure of Rs. 1·42 lakhs to end of the year and the second block was completed during the year. The construction of the new buildings for the Madras Trades School was started late in the year and a sum of Rs. ·48 lakh was spent thereon in the year. The extensions to the chemical wing in the Presidency College were almost completed. The new buildings for the Government Secondary and Training School

for Mistresses were completed and the school opened by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon during the year. The expenditure to end of the year on the work was Rs. 1·74 lakhs against the estimate of Rs. 1·77 lakhs. The widening of the Willingdon bridge and the reconstruction of the Hutton bridge to carry a tram line over them were completed and the bridges opened for traffic during the year. This scheme involved a total expenditure of Rs. 7·30 lakhs to end of the year against the estimated cost of Rs. 7·71 lakhs. The water-supply schemes for the towns of Anantapur, Rāmēswaram, and Tuticorin and improvements to the Cuddapah, Adōni, Tanjore and Madura water works were in progress during the year. Up to date the Madura Drainage Scheme has cost Rs. 27·88 lakhs against the estimated cost of Rs. 38·21 lakhs, the outlay during the year alone being Rs. 2·79 lakhs. The open drainage scheme for the Vellore town was also in progress. Minor water-supply schemes involving an outlay of Rs. ·33 lakh were in progress or under investigation.

Water-supply and drainage

190. The value of the work done during the year under all heads in the Dowlaishwaram workshops amounted to Rs. 1·51 lakhs against Rs. 1·83 lakhs in 1921–22 ; the decrease, as in last year, was due to restrictions imposed on expenditure. In the Bezwada workshops, the value of work turned out was Rs. ·67 lakh against Rs. ·95 lakh in the previous year. Here again the decrease was due to restricted operations. For the same reason, there was a fall in the out-turn in the workshops at Madras, the value of the work done during the year being Rs. 2·33 lakhs against Rs. 4·57 lakhs in the previous year.

Workshops

TRAMWAYS (1922–23)

191. The route mileage operated upon by the Madras Electric Tramways increased during the year by 1 furlong and 38 yards to a total of 16 miles and 164 yards, of which 6 miles, 5 furlongs and 147 yards are double track. The line equipment is throughout on the overhead trolley system suspended by side or centre poles. The current is obtained from the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and the power station plant is kept in reserve. As in the last year the rolling stock consisted of 80 motor cars, 20 trailers, 1 special car, 1 road-metal carrying car and 1 watering car ; but the average daily number of cars in service in 1922 was 68, i.e., 8 less than that of the previous year. One car was reconstructed during the year. The car mileage rose from 1,656,806½ miles to 1,803,543 miles, and the number of passengers also increased from 17,289,772 to 17,530,998.

CANALS (1922–23)

192. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Dumagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vēdāranniyam canals. The total direct receipts amounted to Rs. 2·78 lakhs or Rs. 0·14 lakh more than in the previous year. The increase occurred chiefly under the Gōdāvari and Kistna canals and was due to a larger revenue being realized under " Annual licence fees."

IRRIGATION (1922–23)

[*Statistics of British India, Vol. I, Commercial Statistics—Irrigation*]

193. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works fell, by Rs. 6·02 lakhs, to Rs. 82·94 lakhs, but the revenue derived therefrom rose from Rs. 281·17 lakhs to Rs. 285·11 lakhs. The area charged as irrigated was

Gross expenditure and revenue

7,335,502 acres or 106,176 acres more than in 1921–22. Productive works showed a return of 12·77 per cent on the capital as compared with 12·74 per cent in the previous year and 3·27 per cent twenty-five years ago, i.e., for 1897–98.

Irrigation works

194. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (*a* Irrigation works and (*b*) Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works, each class being subdivided into "Productive" and "Unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years.

Productive

The capital outlay on "Irrigation works—Productive" (direct and indirect) fell from Rs. 7·59 lakhs to Rs. 6·74 lakhs and was incurred chiefly on the Gōdāvari and the Cauvery delta systems and the Toludūr project, the last of which was practically completed during the year. In the Gōdāvari delta system the improvements to the Kovvūr-Manjair junction canal, the Ainapur drain and the upper portion of the Yenamadurru drain were in progress. In the Cauvery delta system the improvements to Lawford's straight cut, the construction of a regulator across the Korayār and the reconstruction of the Thoppadanaveli dam were in progress. The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,219,911 acres and 477,674 acres, respectively, against 2,949,442 acres and 445,891 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (productive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 173·76 lakhs and Rs. 37·64 lakhs, respectively, for the year against Rs. 159·74 lakhs and Rs. 35·41 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 89·21 lakhs against Rs. 82·59 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 12·77 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 6·98 crores as against 12·74 per cent in 1921–22. After deducting interest charges, the profit for the year was Rs. 67·17 lakhs against Rs. 62·12 lakhs in the previous year and the accumulated profits to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 23·60 crores. The increase under gross revenue and working expenses was mainly due to the inclusion under this class of some of the works shown under "Unproductive" in the report of last year. Compared with the previous year there is an increase of revenue under the Kistna delta system and this was due to the increase in the cultivation under "occupied wet" and "dry irrigated." Heavy expenditure was also incurred under the Periyār system in closing the breaches caused by the floods in the Vaigai in November and December 1922.

Unproductive

The capital outlay on Irrigation works—Unproductive (direct and indirect) was Rs. 0·24 lakh, incurred chiefly on the Nāgavalli river system and the Kaniyampālaiyam anicut. The area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 267,695 acres and 24,824 acres, respectively, against 487,370 acres and 90,080 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (Unproductive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses inclusive of old irrigation revenue and old maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 10·30 lakhs and Rs. 4·0 lakhs against Rs. 21·36 lakhs and Rs. 6·42 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The fall was mainly due to the transfer of some of the works shown under this class to "Productive works." The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 4·46 lakhs. After deducting interest charges the deficit for the year was Rs. 8·88 lakhs.

Remissions

The remissions granted under "Productive" and "Unproductive" works were Rs. 1,28,636 and Rs. 15,104, respectively, against Rs. 1,72,251 and Rs. 93,916 in the previous year. The areas mainly affected were the Gōdāvari and the Kistna delta systems under the former class.

Navigation works—Unproductive

195. There were three works under this class, viz., the Ganjām-Gopalpur canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 75,637 and Rs. 2,81,118, respectively, against Rs. 81,329 and Rs. 2,59,888 in the previous year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,05,481 to Government on the working of the canals against Rs. 1,78,559 in 1921–22. During the year under review heavy expenditure was incurred on the clearance of silt in the Buckingham canal to keep it efficient for traffic.

196. The outlay on this class of works including that incurred by civil officers and accounted for by the Civil department was Rs. 28·44 lakhs as against Rs. 32·85 lakhs in the previous year. The area charged as irrigated rose from 3,256,543 acres to 3,345,398 acres and the revenue inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works Department was Rs. 99·51 lakhs against Rs. 98·48 lakhs in the previous year. The total area coming within the scope of Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year an area of 1,006 square miles was investigated, bringing the total to 83,609 square miles. No new minor basins were entered upon during the year. Works were completed for 76,431 square miles of the area investigated, were in progress for 4,072 square miles and were not commenced in the balance of 3,106 square miles. Estimates for Government works were sanctioned to the extent of Rs. 3·22 lakhs or Rs. 1·37 lakhs less than in the previous year. The total amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year was Rs. 161·69 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 2·20 lakhs or Rs. 3·59 lakhs, including percentage charges.

Irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

Tank restoration scheme

197. The outlay incurred on this class of works fell from Rs. 7·38 lakhs to Rs. 6·84 lakhs but the revenue was the same as in the previous year, viz., 0·78 lakh. The estimate for the Cauvery reservoir project was still under the consideration of the Government of India pending conclusion of negotiations with the Mysore Darbar. The Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district, the Velgode project in the Kurnool district and the improvements to the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal were also under consideration. In the Ganjām district estimates for improvements to the Girisola channel were under the consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. The Coringa island project was under revision. The estimates for the Pōlavaram island project were under the consideration of Government. Estimates for fitting higher shutters to the Kistna anicut at Bezwada and the Pratur pumping scheme for the irrigation of 10,768 acres in the Tenali and Guntūr taluks by pumping water from the Kistna river were also under the consideration of Government. An estimate amounting to Rs. 9·33 lakhs for the diversion of the Nallamada drain in the Kistna delta was sanctioned. The estimate for the Thippayapālem reservoir project in the Kurnool district was under scrutiny by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. The estimates for making the Nīlambūr river in the Malabar district navigable for forest produce and for improvements to the Vadavār and the Vīranam tanks in the South Arcot district were still under revision.

Navigation, embankment and drainage works

Investigation of projects

198. The floods during the year in the Vaigai were abnormal and caused serious breaches in the Periyār main canal. There was however no damage to crops owing to the prompt action taken.

Miscellaneous

199. Detailed proposals of the Syndicate which had taken over the Periyār power concession were awaited. The Nilgiri Power Syndicate concluded their arrangements for the supply of power to Ootacamund and proposals for the working out of the scheme with financial assistance from the Government put forward by the Syndicate were under consideration. Concessions for the development of power from the Pykara in the Nilgiris and from the Kathuvadi Ar on the Kollimalais were granted. In connexion with the latter scheme the terms of the licence to be granted were under consideration. The surveys of the seven schemes which were under investigation in the previous year were completed and three new schemes in the Wynaad, viz., the Cholatipuzha, Thalipuzha and Ponapuzha schemes, were reconnoitred. The Thalipuzha near Vayitri and the Cholatipuzha near Cherambadi are likely to be of considerable importance to industries on the West Coast and to the extension of the railway up the ghats.

Hydro-electric surveys

CHAPTER V

REVENUE AND FINANCE (1922–23)

[*Statistics of British India, Vol. II, Financial Statistics*]

REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

(*a*) GROSS REVENUE

Revenue and expenditure

200. The following statements give the figures during each of the past two years of the Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works, Civil Works, etc., not charged to Revenue :—

A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.		Total.	
	1921-22.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1921-22.	1922-23.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Customs	2,12,45,365	3,10,38,389	...	...	2,12,45,365	3,10,38,389
II. Taxes on Income	1,37,84,156	1,30,82,461	39,88,842	1,39,023	1,77,72,998	1,32,21,484
III. Salt	1,39,01,765	1,51,75,974	...	...	1,39,01,765	1,51,75,974
IV. Opium	8,68,487	10,64,828	...	...	8,68,487	10,64,828
V. Land Revenue	...	...	7,25,95,385	7,29,84,310	7,25,95,385	7,29,84,310
VI. Excise	...	...	4,88,17,244	4,90,14,302	4,88,17,244	4,90,14,302
VII. Stamps—						
A. Non-Judicial	...	...	70,86,801	89,25,580	70,86,801	89,25,580
B. Judicial	...	...	1,18,98,345	1,30,57,752	1,18,98,345	1,30,57,752
VIII. Forest	...	...	48,56,960	52,72,956	48,56,960	52,72,956
IX. Registration	...	...	32,55,695	35,98,474	32,55,695	35,98,474
X. Tributes from Indian States.	44,96,519	44,96,519	...	...	44,96,519	44,96,519
XI. State Railways—						
Gross receipts	11,17,97,580	12,42,08,793	...	...	11,17,97,580	12,42,08,793
Deduct—Working expenses	8,50,97,994	8,72,67,697	...	...	8,50,97,994	8,72,67,697
Net receipts	2,66,99,586	3,69,41,096	...	...	2,66,99,586	3,69,41,096
XII. Subsidized Companies ...	328	2,58,365	...	...	328	2,58,365
XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	(—) 28,01,554	(—) 27,29,983	(—) 28,01,554	(—) 27,29,983
XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which no capital accounts are kept	...	...	1,30,813	1,36,477	1,30,813	1,36,477
XVI. Interest	8,31,395	7,91,611	6,19,714	9,52,606	14,51,109	17,44,217
XVII. Administration of Justice ...	...	...	10,80,456	15,84,212	10,80,456	15,84,212
XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	9,29,151	7,77,542	9,29,151	7,77,542
XIX. Police	...	...	6,63,374	13,45,310	6,63,374	13,45,310
XX. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	915	112	915	112
XXI. Education	...	...	7,22,692	7,02,449	7,22,692	7,02,449
XXII. Medical	...	...	3,07,322	3,39,529	3,07,322	3,39,529
XXIII. Public Health	...	...	77,867	2,62,537	77,867	2,62,537
XXIV. Agriculture	5,101	3,664	3,88,854	3,45,907	3,93,955	3,49,571
XXV. Industries	...	...	10,07,323	14,40,245	10,07,328	14,40,245
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments.	36,616	35,700	3,03,846	3,42,337	3,40,462	3,78,037
XXVII. Currency	20,194	12,173	...	...	20,194	12,173
XXX. Civil Works	12,112	14,340	6,52,955	7,56,188	6,65,067	7,70,528
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation	1,46,333	1,46,337	3,74,186	3,88,541	5,20,519	5,34,928
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing ...	24,122	184	1,46,693	2,20,561	1,70,815	2,20,745
XXXV. Miscellaneous	66,84,131	1,53,977	5,75,110	5,49,071	72,59,241	7,03,048
Total (*a*) ...	8,87,56,210	10,32,20,663	15,76,83,994	16,04,06,038	24,64,40,204	26,36,26,706
Contributions to the Central Government by Provincial Government.	3,83,81,000	3,48,00,000	(—) 3,83,81,000	(—) 3,48,00,000	...	...
Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments.	18,14,477	(—) 4,04,194	(—) 18,14,477	4,04,194	...	...
Total including (*a*) ...	12,89,51,687	13,76,16,474	11,74,88,517	12,60,10,232	24,64,40,204	26,36,26,706
Famine Insurance Fund ...	...	...	...	5,70,251	...	5,70,251
Loans and advances by Provincial Government.	...	...	15,57,344	20,44,210	15,57,344	20,44,210
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	9,50,000	14,24,981	10,99,97,619	66,18,000	11,09,47,619	80,42,981
Grand Total ...	12,99,01,687	13,90,41,455	22,90,43,480	13,52,42,693	35,89,45,167	27,42,84,148

B.—Central and Provincial Funds—Charges.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.						Total.	
			1921-22.			1922-23.				
	1921-22.	1922-23.	India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.	1921-22.	1922-23.
EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Customs	9,79,869	12,05,054	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,79,869	12,05,054
2. Taxes on Income	3,30,627	4,77,082	1,10,209	...	1,10,209	...	...	...	4,40,836	4,77,082
3. Salt	23,69,951	26,12,595	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,69,951	26,12,595
4. Opium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Land Revenue	...	...	1,24,85,448	47,034	1,29,32,482	1,33,26,088	18,567	1,33,44,655	1,29,32,482	1,33,44,655
6. Excise	...	...	30,76,207	12,938	30,89,145	29,10,824	15,723	29,26,547	30,89,145	29,26,547
7. Stamps	...	...	5,60,464	...	5,60,464	6,01,238	...	6,01,238	5,60,464	6,01,238
8. Forest	...	...	51,53,695	70,352	52,20,047	47,89,463	39,089	48,28,552	52,20,047	48,28,552
9. Registration	...	...	22,60,717	...	22,60,717	21,92,478	...	21,92,478	22,60,717	21,92,478
10. State Railways	66,19,111	70,29,845	...	...	...	...	...	...	66,19,111	70,29,845
11. Subsidized Companies	36,639	4,09,309	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,639	4,09,309
12. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	70,192	1,26,553	...	...	...	...	...	...	70,192	1,26,553
13. Construction of Railways	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept.	...	...	38,20,911	...	38,20,911	38,33,260	...	38,33,260	38,20,911	38,33,260
15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	39,93,556	895	39,99,451	35,02,066	...	35,02,066	39,99,451	35,02,066
16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	40,294	...	40,294	22,593	...	22,593	40,294	22,593
19. Interest on ordinary debt	65,32,270	65,11,243	(—) 3,71,311	...	(—) 3,71,311	3,16,449	...	3,16,449	61,60,959	68,27,732
20. Interest on other obligations.	22,40,777	20,52,116	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,40,777	20,52,116
22. General administration	...	72,000	1,32,19,592	2,90,206	1,35,09,798	1,29,97,694	3,22,833	1,32,20,527	1,35,09,798	1,32,92,527
23. Audit	7,59,564	5,86,832	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,59,564	5,86,832
24. Administration of Justice	...	...	93,77,724	79,758	94,57,482	95,00,399	92,945	95,93,344	94,57,482	96,93,344
25. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	29,37,523	18,271	29,55,794	39,33,414	10,809	39,44,223	29,55,794	39,44,223
26. Police	...	...	1,98,70,293	1,70,018	2,00,40,311	2,02,90,673	1,34,900	2,04,29,573	2,00,40,311	2,04,29,573
27. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	53,332	...	53,832	49,374	...	49,374	53,832	49,374
28. Ecclesiastical	4,39,690	431,944	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,39,690	4,31,944
29. Political	1,81,300	1,44,797	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,81,300	1,44,797
30. Scientific Departments	67,713	...	1,24,227	3,541	1,31,768	1,32,611	5,717	1,38,328	1,99,481	1,38,328
31. Education	...	...	1,42,75,764	47,978	1,43,23,742	1,53,44,943	99,088	1,54,44,031	1,43,23,742	1,54,44,031
32. Medical	...	...	57,19,056	1,27,758	58,46,814	55,27,822	1,65,622	56,93,444	58,46,814	56,93,444
33. Public Health	50,072	84,686	26,72,130	13,104	26,85,234	10,33,552	18,879	10,52,431	27,35,306	11,37,117
34. Agriculture	33,674	44,249	25,07,728	49,007	25,56,735	26,57,725	35,770	26,93,495	25,95,409	27,37,744
35. Industries	...	...	19,94,562	71,014	20,65,576	16,84,481	94,975	17,79,456	20,65,576	17,79,456
36. Aviation	1,573	4,361	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,573	4,361
37. Miscellaneous Departments.	3,81,850	78,823	9,30,216	3,439	9,33,655	9,99,007	4,042	10,03,049	13,15,505	10,81,872
38. Currency	2,77,929	2,61,602	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,77,929	2,61,602
40. Civil Works	1,64,410	1,10,647	1,20,40,990	1,42,935	1,21,83,925	1,03,30,369	3,56,101	1,06,86,470	1,23,48,335	1,07,97,117
43. Famine Relief and Insurance.	...	...	10,67,484	...	10,67,484	6,55,285	...	6,55,285	10,67,484	6,55,285
44. Territorial and Political Pensions	2,76,852	2,80,585	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,76,852	2,80,585
45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	2,94,153	4,31,314	45,55,761	26,990	45,82,751	47,03,668	1,84,254	48,87,922	48,76,904	53,19,236
46. Stationery and Printing	10,32,525	1,25,208	23,82,375	86,968	24,69,343	19,05,662	4,24,445	23,30,107	35,01,868	24,55,315
47. Miscellaneous	5,62,610	46,756	7,87,873	37,120	8,24,993	9,59,370	38,225	9,97,595	13,87,603	10,44,351
Total expenditure charged to Revenue	2,42,08,351	2,31,27,641	12,60,61,220	12,99,326	12,73,60,646	12,41,00,508	20,65,934	12,61,66,492	15,15,68,997	14,92,94,133
Surplus (+) or Deficit (—)	+10,47,43,336	+11,44,88,833	...	...	(—) 93,72,129	...	...	(—)1,56,280	+9,48,71,207	+11,43,32,573
Grand Total	12,89,51,687	13,76,16,474		...	11,74,88,517	...	...	12,60,10,232	24,64,40,204	26,36,26,706
CAPITAL OUTLAY ON RAILWAY AND IRRIGATION WORKS NOT CHARGED TO REVENUE.										
53. Construction of State Railways	1,58,08,174	1,31,33,296	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,58,08,174	1,31,33,296
55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	7,18,730	...	7,18,730	6,42,594	...	6,42,594	7,18,730	6,42,594
60. Civil Works	...	...	11,30,312	...	11,30,312	...	...	...	11,30,312	...
60-A. Other Provincial works not charged to Revenue.	...	...	...	...		5,77,509	...	5,77,509	...	5,77,509
Total Capital Outlay	1,58,08,174	1,31,33,296	18,49,042	...	18,49,042	12,20,103	...	12,20,103	1,76,57,216	1,43,53,399
Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments	...	...	62,50,566	.	62,50,566	54,22,414	...	54,22,414	62 50,566	54,22,414
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	10,99,97,619	66,18,000	9,50,000	...	9,50,000	14,24,981	...	14,24,981	11,09,47,619	80,42,981
Balances of Provincial Government	...	...	9,85,11,628	...	9,85,11,628	...	...	...	9,85,11,628	...
Grand Total (Disbursements)	15,00,14,144	4,28,83,937	23,36,22,556	12,99,326	23,49,21,882	13,21,68,006	20,65,984	13,42,33,990	38,49,36,026	17,71,17,927

Including the receipts and charges of the Civil and Public Works Departments, but excluding the figures relating to the Army, the Post office and the Telegraph department, and the Home Accounts of the Central Government, as well as those relating to capital outlay and debt and remittance transactions, the gross revenue amounted to Rs. 26,36,26,706 or Rs. 1,71,86,502 more than that of the previous year ; the gross expenditure charged to revenue fell by Rs. 22,74,864 to Rs. 14,92,94,133. These figures are subject to alteration when the finance and revenue accounts of the Government of India are finally made up by the Auditor-General.

Surplus revenue

201. The surplus amounted to Rs. 11,43,32,573 or an increase of Rs. 1,94,61,366 over that of 1921–22.

Cash balance

202. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 117 lakhs in the Exchange Treasury and in the revenue treasuries, other than those managed by branches of the Imperial Bank of India, and closed with a balance of Rs. 135 lakhs.

b Central Revenue and Finance

General

203. The receipts on account of Central Revenue were more than those of the previous year by Rs. 1,44,64,458. The increase occurred chiefly under Customs (Rs. 97·93 lakhs), Salt (Rs. 12·74 lakhs) and State Railway earnings (Rs. 102·42 lakhs), partly counter-balanced by a decrease under Miscellaneous Revenue (Rs. 65·25 lakhs). The net amount transferred from Provincial to Central was Rs. 57,99,671 less than in the previous year. The Central expenditure charged to revenue was less than that in 1921–22 by Rs. 10,80,710, the decrease being chiefly under Stationery and Printing. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 1–8–3·5 against Rs. 1–5–10·4 in 1921–22.

Customs

204. The revenue under Customs is subdivided into Sea Customs and Land Customs. The receipts under Sea Customs, exclusive of import duty on salt which was credited to "salt," amounted to Rs. 3,05,22,621 against Rs. 2,07,51,811 in 1921–22. The increase of Rs. 97·70 lakhs was mainly due to increases of Rs. 94·79 lakhs under import duties and Rs. 1·42 lakhs under export duties. The improvement under import duties was mainly due to enhanced rates of duty levied from 1st March 1922, and that under export duties to larger exports of rice and tea. The receipts under "Land Customs" rose from Rs. 8,40,995 to Rs. 10,89,757, the increase being mainly due to the imposition and collection of large penalties for smuggling matches and gold thread on the Pondicherry and Karikal frontiers. The incidence of taxation per head of the population was As. 11–11 against As. 8–2 in 1921–22. Refunds and drawbacks during the year amounted to Rs. 5,73,989 against Rs. 3,47,441 in 1921–22. The charges rose from Rs. 9,79,869 in 1921–22 to Rs. 12,05,054 in 1922–23, owing chiefly to increased compensations paid to the Cochin and Travancore Darbars.

Opium

205. For information about the opium revenue see infra under Excise Administration.

Salt

206. The season was generally more favourable for salt manufacture than that of 1921–22. Manufacture in almost all the factories commenced early, but the licensees were handicapped in their operations by intermittent rains, and in the Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts manufacture had to be closed in June. Twelve and a half million maunds of salt were manufactured or half a million maunds more than in the previous year. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was $9\frac{1}{2}$ million maunds and the quantity imported during the year, mainly from Bombay, 2 million maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption thus amounted to 24 million maunds. The issues during the year amounted to nearly 15 million maunds and the balance on hand at the end of the year, excluding wastage, was $8\frac{1}{2}$ million maunds. Since the stocks on hand were ample, some of the factories remained unworked, and some of the excise licensees contented themselves with producing only so much salt as, in their opinion, was likely to command a ready sale at a remunerative price. The wholesale price of excise salt and the retail prices at the headquarter stations showed a slight increase. The retail prices showed a tendency to increase from the second fortnight of February 1923 owing to the anticipated enhancement of the duty. The prices were unsteady throughout March as the merchants were doubtful whether the increased duty would be retained.

207. Of the total quantity of salt manufactured during the year, about $2\frac{1}{5}$ million maunds were Government salt and $10\frac{3}{10}$ million maunds were excise salt, as against $3\frac{1}{4}$ million maunds and $8\frac{3}{4}$ million maunds,

respectively, in the previous year. The quantity of duty-paid salt imported by sea from the Bombay Presidency rose from 1,462,527 maunds to 1,704,429 maunds and that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa fell from 282,702 maunds to 251,692 maunds. The issues of locally-manufactured and imported salt for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied rose from 12,202,542 maunds to 13,617,562 maunds. The quantity issued for export by sea was 513,374 maunds against 679,032 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of salt issued for fish-curing purposes fell from 257,530 maunds to 230,825 maunds. The quantities issued to the French Government and the Travancore Darbar were 72,298 and 314,292 maunds, respectively, against 71,012 and 502,520 maunds in the previous year. The year's revenue amounted to Rs. 1,51,75,974 against Rs. 1,39,01,765 in 1921–22, the increase being due to larger sales of salt during the year and to the higher duty collected in March 1922, which was refunded in the following year. The incidence of taxation which is calculated with reference to the rate of inland consumption was As. 5-1·8 as against As. 4-7 in 1921-22. The charges fell from Rs. 28,69,951 to Rs. 26,12,595, the decrease occurring partly in the cost of the combined salt and abkari establishments and partly under "Salt Purchase and Freight." The decrease under the former was mainly due to reduction of staff, strict economy in contingent expenditure and the stoppage of manufacture in some Government factories while that under the latter was due to the stoppage of manufacture in many of the monopoly factories.

Income-tax (excluding super-tax and excess profits duty)

208. The total net receipts under Income-tax (Central and Provincial) amounted to Rs. 1,05,56,829 against Rs. 1,26,36,773 in the previous year. The share of the Provincial Government fell from Rs. 39,88,842 in 1921–22 to Rs. 1,39,023 in 1922–23. The Central share was thus Rs. 1,04,17,806 in 1922–23 against Rs. 86,47,931 in 1921–22. The decrease in the total receipts was due to general depression in trade in 1921-22, the year on which the assessments for 1922–23 were based. The incidence of taxation was As. 5–1·4 per head against As. 5–8·9 per head in the previous year. The total charges on account of the Income-tax establishment rose from Rs. 4,40,836 to Rs. 4,77,082, the increase being chiefly due to the employment of a whole time income-tax staff in Madras City and to the entertainment of probationary Income-tax Officers. 25 per cent of the total charges, were debited to the Provincial Government in 1921–22, but the entire charges were debited to Central in 1922–23 under the revised Devolution rule 15.

Super-tax

209. The net collections from super-tax fell from Rs. 44,08,661 in 1921–22 to Rs. 26,63,207 in 1922–23, the decrease being due, as was that of income-tax, to unfavourable conditions of trade in 1921–22. The incidence of taxation per head was As. 1-1·4 against As. 2-0·8 in 1921–22. No special staff was employed during the year.

Excess profits duty

210. Only a trivial sum was collected, representing arrears of previous years.

Other Central receipts

211. Central revenue from other sources amounted to Rs. 4,28,59,016, an increase of Rs. 39,02,579 over the revenue of the previous year. A growth of Rs. 102·42 lakhs in the net receipts from State railways mainly due to new goods rates was partly offset by a decrease of Rs. 65·25 lakhs under Miscellaneous revenue (Freight tax) on the abolition of the surtax.

Contributions and assignments to Central Government by Provincial Government and miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments

212. The net amount paid to the Central Government by the Provincial Government in 1922–23 was Rs. 3,43,95,806, made up of (*a*) Rs. 348·00 lakhs, being the fixed contribution paid to the Central Government under Rule 17 of the Devolution rules and (*b*) Rs. 4·04 lakhs transferred from Central to Provincial on account of the provincialization of the Lawrence Memorial School (Rs. 3·30 lakhs), and some other miscellaneous adjustments.

Other Central expenditure

213. Central expenditure under other heads amounted to Rs. 1,88,32,910 against Rs. 2,00,27,904 in 1921–22. The decrease occurred mainly under "Stationery and Printing" Rs. 9·07 lakhs), and Miscellaneous expenditure" (Rs. 5·16 lakhs) partly counterbalanced by an increase under State railways (Rs. 4·11 lakhs). The decrease under "Stationery and Printing" was due to the provincialization of the stationery store at Madras while that under Miscellaneous expenditure was due to the inclusion in the actuals of 1921–22 of amounts lost from treasuries and currency chests during the Malabar disturbance and written off under the orders of the Government of India. The increase under "State Railways" occurred mainly under "Annuities in purchase of railways."

Capital outlay on State railways

214. The capital outlay on State Railways not charged to revenue was Rs. 1,31,38,296 against Rs. 1,58,08,174 in 1921–22, the decrease being chiefly due to smaller expenditure on rolling stock on the South Indian Railway.

Loans and advances by the Central Government

215. The opening balance under Loans and Advances by the Central Government on the 1st April 1922 was Rs. 1,85,77,206. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 5,25,957, the chief items being Rs. 2,08,047 by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2,28,020 by the Madras Port Trust, Rs. 41,236 by the Madras Coast Lights Fund and Rs. 44,599 by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 1,80,51,249. A sinking fund has been constituted for the loan of Rs. 14,30,000 taken by the Madras Corporation, and the instalment due to the fund during the year (Rs. 28,600) was duly paid. On the 31st March 1923, the sinking fund held Government securities of a face value of Rs. 16,63,400.

(*c*) Revenue and Finance other than Central.

Provincial revenues

216. The provincial accounts opened with a nil balance on 1st April 1922 and closed with a balance of Rs. 10,08,703 on the 31st March 1923 as the net result of receipts amounting to Rs. 13,69,52,581 and expenditure of Rs. 13,59,43,878.

Land revenue

217. The receipts from Land Revenue amounted to Rs. 7,29,84,310 or Rs. 3,88,925 more than those of 1921–22. The increase was generally due to the favourable character of the season and collection of arrears. The incidence of taxation per head of the population amounted to Rs. 1–11–8 against Rs. 1–11–6 in the previous year. It was highest in the district of Kistna and lowest in Vizagapatam. The charges amounted to Rs. 1,33,44,655 against Rs. 1,29,32,482 in 1921–22, the increase being chiefly due to revision of pay of village establishments.

Excise

218. For information about Excise revenue, see infra under Excise Administration.

Stamps

219. The revenue from Stamps increased from Rs. 1,89,85,146 in 1921–22 to Rs. 2,19,83,332 in 1922–23. Revenue from this source estimated in the budget was Rs. 2,58,00,000. The increase was made up of Rs. 18·39 lakhs under non-judicial stamps and Rs. 11·59 lakhs under judicial stamps and was due to the raising of stamp duty and court fees. The incidence of taxation per head rose from As. 7–2·1 to As. 8–3·7. The charges rose from Rs. 5,60,464 in 1921–22 to Rs. 6,01,238 in 1922–23.

Income-tax

220. The provincial share of Income-tax receipts amounted to Rs. 1,39,023 only against Rs. 39,88,842 in 1921–22, the decrease being due to an alteration in Devolution rule 15. Under the Devolution rule as it stood in 1921–22 the share of the Local Government was calculated at 3 pies on each rupee brought under assessment. In consideration of this, the Local Government had to make an assignment to the Central Government equivalent to the amount which would have accrued to the Local Government in the year 1920-21 (after deducting the Provincial share of the cost of special income-tax establishment in that year) if the pie rate referred to above had been applied in that year. The Local Government had also to bear 25 per cent of the cost of special income-tax establishments

employed within the province. In 1921-22, the amount of assignment paid to the Central Government by the Provincial Government amounted to Rs. 35,81,000 and the cost of special income-tax establishment borne by the Provincial Government was Rs. 1,10,209. Under the revised Devolution rule, the share of the Provincial Government is calculated at the rate of 3 pies in each rupee of the amount by which the assessed income of any year exceeds the assessed income of the year 1920-21 and no portion of the cost of the income-tax establishment is borne by the Provincial Government.

Forests

221. The revenue from Forests increased from Rs. 48,56,960 to Rs. 52,72,956 mainly because of larger receipts from timber and other produce removed from the forests by consumers and purchasers. The charges on the other hand fell from Rs. 52,29,047 to Rs. 48,28,552 owing to the absence of the special expenditure incurred in 1921-22 on a Saw Mill at Russellkonda and on operations in the Chenat Nair forests.

Registration

222. An enhancement in registration fees led to a growth of nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs (from Rs. 32,55,695 to Rs. 35,98,474) in the receipts under Registration. The charges amounted to Rs. 21,92,478, a decrease of Rs. 68,239.

Canal revenue

223. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 2·78 lakhs or 0·14 lakh more than in the previous year.

Other Provincial receipts

224. The Provincial receipts under the remaining heads amounted to Rs. 74,13,641 and exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 22,28,919. The increase occurred chiefly under Interest (Rs. 3·33 lakhs), Administration of Justice (Rs. 5·04 lakhs), Police (6·77 lakhs) and Industries (Rs. 4·33 lakhs). The increase under Interest occurred mainly under Interest on loans and advances by the Provincial Government while that under Administration of Justice was due to fines levied from the Malabar rebels. Larger contributions from Railway Companies for Railway Police formed the chief item for the increase under Police. There was no repetition in 1922-23 of the refunds made to the Government of India in 1921-22 on account of the sale-proceeds originally credited to Provincial revenues, of the Government of India's stock of quinine ; and the growth in the net receipts from Industries is thus accounted for.

Famine relief and insurance

225. Under Schedule IV of the Devolution rules, the Provincial Government is required to make every year, with effect from 1921-22, a provision of Rs. 6·61 lakhs in the budget estimate for expenditure upon relief of, and insurance against, famine. The amount is to be expended only upon the relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine. Any portion of the amount which is not required for these purposes is utilised in building up a Famine Insurance Fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India, which will pay interest on it, and it will be available, when necessary, for expenditure on any of the objects mentioned above and also for the grant of advances to cultivators. As the expenditure on famine relief in 1921-22 amounted to Rs. 10,67,484, no amount was transferred to the fund in that year. In 1922-23, the expenditure on famine relief amounted to Rs. 85,034 only and that on protective irrigation works met from the famine insurance grant to Rs. 5,715. The balance of the famine insurance grant transferred to the Famine Insurance Fund thus amounted to Rs. 5,70,251.

Other Provincial expenditure

226. The expenditure in the Provincial section under the heads other than those already dealt with amounted to Rs. 10,16,17,737 and was less than that of the previous year by Rs. 4,93,361. Decreases amounting in all to Rs. 45,17,799 appeared under 9 heads and were partly counterbalanced by increases amounting to Rs. 40,24,438 which appeared under 11 heads. The important increases occurred under Jails (Rs. 9·88 lakhs) and Education (Rs. 11·20 lakhs), the increase under the former being mainly due to expenditure in connection with Mappilla prisoners, and that under the latter to larger grants paid to local bodies for elementary education. The important decreases were under Public Health (Rs. 16·33 lakhs) and Civil Works (Rs. 14·97 lakhs). The decrease under Public Health occurred

mostly under "Grants to local bodies for water-supply and drainage schemes" while that under Civil Works was due to expenditure being restricted to urgent works on account of financial stringency.

Loans and advances by the Provincial Government

227. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 1,56,79,105 and closed with a balance of Rs. 1,90,57,309 ; advances during the year amounted to Rs. 54,22,414 and repayments to Rs. 20,44,210. Advances to cultivators amounted to Rs. 25,80,429 against Rs. 23,16,553 in the previous year. The Madras Corporation received a loan of Rs. 3,00,000 for water-supply and drainage works and the Madras Port Trust received Rs. 8,00,000 for harbour works. The Tinnevelly District Board received Rs. 8,50,000 for the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendūr Railway. The loans granted to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, markets, hospitals, etc., amounted to Rs. 5,97,677. Advances to the extent of Rs. 93,005 were sanctioned for the acquisition of house sites for Adi-Dravidas. The Kallar Co-operative Societies received loans to the extent of Rs. 1,97,005.

Loans between Central and Provincial Governments

228. The advances obtained by the Provincial Government from the Government of India under rule 25 of the Devolution rules to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure amounted to Rs. 66,18,000 carrying interest at the rate of 6½ per cent per annum. The amount repaid to the Government of India was Rs. 14,24,981 which is made up of Rs. 9,50,000 on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account and Rs. 4,74,981 in repayment of the advances amounting to Rs. 1,14,85,991 obtained in 1921-22 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure.

Local funds

229. The following table summarizes the transactions of funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to the general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial) :—

Name of the fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1922.	Receipts, 1922-23.	Charges, 1922-1923.	Closing balance on 31st March 1923.	Invested balance at credit of the fund.	Remarks.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
1. Bhadrāchalam Nugur Special Fund	15,719	10,235	8,793	17,161	...	
2. Irrigation Cess Fund ...	54,581	47,583	52,146	50,018	...	
3. Port and Marine Funds—The Madras Port Fund.	2,170	1,94,975	1,79,587	17,558	24,200	
4. The Minor Ports Fund ...	2,92,498	6,43,283	4,98,390	4,37,391	3,96,700 (a)	(a) Excludes Rs. 4,10,000 pledged with Imperial Bank of India, Madras.
5. The Cochin Port Fund ...	...	1,35,832	27,941	1,07,891	...	
6. Pilotage Funds (outports).	7,637	14,046	16,631	5,052	1,77,000	
7. Landing and Shipping Dues Funds	6,70,039	14,63,349	13,51,956	7,86,432	6,25,800	
8. The Madras Coasts Lights Fund	56,723	2,71,360	1,63,958	1,64,125	60,000	
9. Cantonment Funds ...	1,61,269	7,56,967	6,12,775	3,05,461	10,000 (b) 60,100 (c)	(b) Relates to Bellary Cantonment Fund. (c) Relates to Secunderabad Cantonment Fund.
10. Civil Hospital Fund, Secunderabad	10,809	1,36,761	1,28,717	18,853	...	
11. Light Keepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund	2,493	5,153	6,902	744	11,000	
12. University Fee Fund ...	59,697	5,47,773	5,09,471	97,999	9,66,800	
13. Kumbakonam College Hostel Fund	1,322	14,387	13,099	2,610	...	
14. Mrs. A. V. Narasinga Rao's College Fund	13,552	36,912	37,456	13,008	1,10,100	
15. Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund, Secunderabad	65,426	1,48,509	1,32,979	80,956	...	
16. Local (Abkari) Fund, Secunderabad	3,47,549	9,06,097	10,27,773	2,25,873	...	

230. For information about Local Funds constituted under the Local Boards Act, see supra Chapter III—Local Boards Administration.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES.

231. See supra Chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal), and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

EXCISE ADMINISTRATION

[*Report on the Administration of the Abkāri Department for the year 1922-23*]

General

232. The collapse of the non-co-operation movement early in 1922 relieved the Excise Department of many of the difficulties with which it had had to contend in the preceding year. More normal conditions resulted in a slight increase over last year in the total revenue. The auctions of shops both in August 1922 and in February 1923 passed off without incident and practically no attempt was made to interfere with them. During the year Government invited several representative officials, non-officials and temperance societies to give their detailed opinions on every aspect of the liquor problem. Their replies which have been recently received are at present engaging the consideration of Government.

Country spirits

233. No change was made during the year in the system of supply of country spirits, the contract distillery system continuing in force in all parts of the Presidency except in some parts of the Agency where the outstill and central distillery systems were maintained. The duty on country spirits was raised during the year from Rs. 6-14-0 to Rs. 8-7-0 a proof gallon in Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts, from Rs. 8-7-0 to Rs. 10-10-0 in Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr and Nellore districts and from Rs. 3-7-0 to Rs. 5-0-0 in Munagala and Lingagiri Zamindaris in Kistna district. No other changes were made. The number of shops increased from 5,874 to 5,917. In spite of this increase, however, the licit consumption fell from 1,644,417 to 1,575,439 proof gallons—a decrease of 68,978 gallons. The decrease is explained in part by the abnormally high consumption of country spirits during the second half of last year when many toddy shops were closed owing to the activities of the non-co-operators and in part to the increased rates of duty to which reference has already been made. The bad season and the decline in the tanning industry were also contributory causes. The total revenue fell from Rs. 212·57 lakhs to Rs. 210·91 lakhs—a decrease of Rs. 1·66 lakhs. In the Agency under the outstill and central distillery systems 109 shops were sold for Rs. 2 lakhs against 118 shops for Rs. 2·07 lakhs in 1921-22.

Toddy

234. The tree-tax system was introduced in 10 riverside villages of the Bhadrāchalam taluk. No change in the amount of tree-tax was made during the year. The number of shops increased from 10,402 to 10,617 and the number of trees tapped up to July 1923, expressed in terms of coconuts, was 23·10 lakhs as against 20·72 lakhs in 1921-22. The total revenue increased by Rs. 2·31 lakhs to Rs. 221·63 lakhs. The licit consumption was roughly 2·64 gallons per head as against 2·33 gallons in 1921-22.

Foreign liquor

235. The duty on spirits contained in medicinal preparations manufactured in bond in this Presidency or imported into it by land or sea was fixed at Rs. 5 from 26th October 1922. Owing to the increase in the duty on foreign liquor which was imposed from 1st March 1922 imports decreased by 45,431 as compared with those of last year. There was also a marked decrease in the amount of foreign spirits manufactured locally—only 10,392 proof gallons being distilled as against 16,944 in 1921-22. Issues of locally-made rectified spirits decreased from 28,935 to 23,033 gallons. The output of beer from the local breweries fell from 656,000 to 574,000 gallons, exports from the Presidency only amounting to 7,061 gallons. As against this 58,243 gallons were imported from Bangalore. The total revenue from this source fell from Rs. 13·85 to Rs. 12·14 lakhs—a decrease of Rs. 1·71 lakhs.

Opium

236. The number of shops sold during the year was 609 as against 604 last year. Issues of opium also increased from 34,757 in 1921-22 to 35,950 seers this year. The increase is chiefly due to the activity of smugglers who reaped considerable profit by smuggling opium to Burma, the Straits and Ceylon. That part of the revenue credited to "Opium" amounted

to Rs. 10·65 lakhs as against Rs. 8·68 lakhs last year ; on the other hand the profit on sale-proceeds, which is credited to "Excise," decreased from Rs. 17·48 to Rs. 17·30 lakhs. The sum realized from shop rentals and miscellaneous revenue and credited to "Excise" was Rs. 9·92 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·40 lakhs. There was thus a net increase of Rs. 2·31 lakhs in the revenue derived from opium during the year. The incidence of taxation amounted to 1 anna and the average consumption 0·067 tola per head of population.

Intoxicating drugs

237. Two hundred and thirty-two acres in the neighbourhood of Santavasal were cultivated with the hemp plant—the outturn of ganja amounting to 508 maunds. Four hundred and seventeen ganja shops were sold as against 404 shops last year. The consumption of hemp drugs increased from 40,596 seers to 41,926 seers—the average consumption per head of population being 0·079 tola. The total revenue, however, showed a decrease—only Rs. 14·76 lakhs being realized this year as against Rs. 15·23 last year.

Cocaine

238. The number of cocaine licences issued increased from 163 to 167 the quantity consumed being about 92 ounces.

Offences

239. The number of recorded offences against the abkāri laws increased from 14,718 to 16,050 : Cases of illicit distillation rose from 1,430 to 2,001—the highest figure since 1901. The chief increase occurred in the six northern districts, the Ceded Districts, South Kanara and Malabar. This increase in the number of cases of illicit distillation coincided with a fall in licit consumption and there can therefore be little doubt that it represents a real increase in this kind of crime and is not merely due to better detection. It indicates that the anti-drink movement has had the effect, not of decreasing the amount of liquor drunk, but of encouraging illicit practices to supply the normal demand. Six thousand six hundred and twenty-three cases of illicit manufacture of toddy were reported against 6,619 last year. Offences under unlicensed possession, transport and sale of liquor increased from 4,780 to 5,387. Offences relating to hemp drugs also increased from 374 to 452—the chief increase being in the illicit cultivation of the hemp plant. The Madras Customs staff seized 26,418 grains of cocaine from S.S. "Torilla" bound for Calcutta. The number of convictions under the Opium Act fell from 176 to 168 but the amount of the fines levied rose from Rs. 7,265 to Rs. 9,416.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

240. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1922)

[*The fifty-ninth annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for 1922; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1922–23; Statistics of British India, Vol. III, Public Health—Vital Statistics*]

Population

241. Excluding the hill tribes of the Agency division, the inhabitants of the Laccadive islands and those of the Banganapalle and Pudukkōttai States, the total population of the Presidency in 1922 estimated according to previous intercensal increases, on the basis of the census of 1921, amounted to 42,928,089; estimated according to natural increase the figure was 43,418,275.

Registration of vital statistics

242. Under the District Municipalities Act registration of births and deaths is compulsory in all municipalities. Of the 52,000 villages and towns in the Presidency registration is compulsory only in 2,766 or rather less than 5·4 per cent of the total. Investigations carried out during the year proved that the figures shown in the registers even of these villages and towns were quite at variance with actual facts. The extension of compulsory notification and its enforcement are indispensable if improvement in the registration of vital statistics is to be obtained. The total number of births registered in the year amounted to 1,231,722 against 1,108,474 in 1921—an increase of 123,248 calculated on the census population of 1921. These figures yield birth-rates of 30·0 per mille for 1922 and 27·0 for 1921. Every district except four showed a considerable increase in the registered birth-rate during the year. The highest birth-rates, as in 1921, were recorded in Madras City, South Kanara and Malabar. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate in all districts, but in Madras City the death-rate was the higher of the two. The number of births registered in Madras during the year was less than the number registered in every other province except Burma, Assam and Bengal. The low position of Madras in the list is probably due to the large number of births which were not registered. The ratio of female to male births was 100 : 104·4 as compared with 100 : 104·7 in 1921. The proportion of still-births to live births was 11 to 1,000, the corresponding figures for 1921 being 9 to 1,000. As in previous years the Muhammadan community returned the highest birth-rate—32·5 per mille against 28·7 in 1921. The rates for Hindus and Indian Christians were 29·9 and 27·0, respectively, against 27·2 and 24·1 per mille in 1921. In the 215 rural towns with a population of over 5,000 inhabitants for which separate vital statistical returns were received, the average birth-rate was 27·3, an increase of 4·7 in the rate registered in 1921. In the 81 municipalities the average birth-rate for the year was 35·2 per mille against 31·2 in 1921. The number of deaths registered during the year was 859,236 or 21·0 per mille against 8,26,897 or 20·2 per mille in 1921. The

Births

Deaths

year was comparatively healthy and it is probable that the increased rate is partly due to better registration and to greater accuracy in the returns. The number of deaths registered in Madras was lower than in any other province of India, but this apparently satisfactory state of affairs may be the result of many deaths not having been registered. The proportion of female to male deaths was 100 : 103·4 as compared with 100 : 102·6 in 1921. In the age periods 15 39, however, the mortality rates are 10·8 per mille for females and 9·9 for males. The registered infantile death-rate during the year was 166·4 per mille of registered births against 160·9 in 1921. A large proportion of the increase in the infantile death-rate was due to the prevalence of smallpox. The death-rate amongst Muhammadans was 21·4, amongst Hindus 21·0 and amongst Christians 17·9 during the year. The death-rate of the rural population in places where Act III of 1899 was in force was 18·5 per mille, while in non-compulsory areas it was 20·6 per mille. In the 215 rural towns the number of deaths registered amounted to 41,193 or 19·1 per mille against 17·6 per mille in 1921. In the 81 municipalities of the Presidency 93,511 deaths were registered during the year as compared with 90,650 in 1921, the death-rate per mille being 31·0 against 30·0.

Chief diseases

243. With the exception of outbreaks of smallpox and relapsing fever no serious epidemic occurred in the Presidency during 1922. The

Cholera

number of deaths from cholera registered during the year was 16,502 (0·4 per mille) against 27,064 (0·7 per mille) in 1921. The districts of Kurnool, Bellary, Cuddapah and Ganjām were very heavily infected and nearly 70 per cent of the deaths from this cause in the Presidency occurred in them. The Nilgiris was the only district which was completely immune from the disease during the year. Three of the eight cholera parties were disbanded in April 1922 and the Sanitary Inspectors were distributed amongst the five districts in which the District Health Scheme was introduced as

Smallpox

an experimental measure. During the year a grave increase occurred in the mortality from smallpox, the number of deaths registered from this cause being 22,801—an increase of 13,009 over the number recorded in 1921. Estimated per mille of population, the death-rate was 0·5 as compared with 0·2 in 1921. Not one district was completely free from infection; but Malabar, the East Coast and the Central and Southern portions of the Presidency returned the largest number of deaths. Of the 22,801 deaths registered, no less than 16,166 occurred among children under 10 years of age and were, no doubt, due to the fact that the children

Plague

had not been vaccinated. Mortality from plague declined from 11,875 or 0·3 in 1921 to 9,193 or 0·2 per mille in 1922. Nearly 94 per cent of the total mortality occurred in Coimbatore, Salem, Madura, North Arcot and Bellary. Except in the Nilgiris and Madura districts the administration of plague preventive measures was extremely unsatisfactory and local authorities failed to recognise their duties in the matter. The number of

Fevers

registered deaths from fever was 319,688 against 316,019 in 1921, the rates per mille of population being 7·8 and 7·7, respectively. As in previous years the largest number of deaths occurred in Vizagapatam, where the death-rate from this cause amounted to 18·5 per mille. Deaths of which the cause was registered as fever formed 87 per cent of the total motality in the Presidency. In very many cases, however, investigation showed that the deaths were due to causes other than fever and reliance must not

Dysentery and diarrhœa

therefore be placed on the figures. There was a further decline in the mortality from dysentery and diarrhœa, the total number of deaths being 51,805 compared with 53,621 in 1921. The decline which has been continuous since 1918 is associated with a similar fall in the number of deaths

Respiratory diseases

from cholera. The number of deaths registered under respiratory diseases was 48,166 (1·2 per mille) against 45,180 (1·1 per mille) in 1921. The highest death-rate from this cause was 4·4 per mille in the Nilgiris. Relapsing fever spread to South Arcot, Bellary, Guntūr, Nellore and Kistna districts during the year and fears are entertained that the infection will spread over the whole Presidency. Every endeavour is, however,

Miscellaneous

being made to prevent this. The total number of deaths registered as

due to maternal causes was 2,613 (2·1 per mille) against 1,864 1·8 per mille) in 1921, but there can be little doubt that these figures are far too low. Deaths registered under the heading "Other causes" aggregated 380,286 (9·3 per mille) as compared with 355,428 (8·7 per mille) in 1921.

Europeans and Anglo-Indians

244. Two hundred and one births and 97 deaths of European British subjects were registered within the limits of the Madras Presidency under the provisions of the Municipal Acts and the Cantonment Code, whereas the number of births and deaths registered under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, amounted to only 54 and 21, respectively. This disparity is due to the fact that while the former enactments are of a compulsory, the latter is of an optional nature. The number of registrars appointed under the Indian Christian Marriage Act was 40 against 41 in 1921–22. Three hundred and forty-seven marriages were contracted by European Christians and 8,700 by Indian Christians during the year compared with 339 and 8,418 in the previous year.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1922)

[*G.O. No. 1372, Law (General), dated the 12th May 1923; Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, etc., Emigration; Fourth Report on the Administration of the Labour Department for the year 1922–23*]

Regulated

245. No indentured emigration took place during 1922 to the West Indies and Fiji as the prohibition imposed by Government in 1917 remained in force. Two thousand eight hundred and sixty-five emigrants returned from Natal. There was no emigration to the French Colonies. Emigration to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements was brought under control for the first time by the new Emigration Act VII of 1922. Notifications were subsequently published permitting the emigration of unskilled labourers to those places and to Mauritius.

Non-regulated

246. The number of passengers to the Straits Settlements showed an increase from 45,627 in 1921 to 59,169 in 1922. The increase was due in part to the better prospects and in part to the larger demand for labourers in the Malay States on account of the improved prospects in the rubber industry. The number of passengers to Burma and Ceylon also increased by 10,127 and 51,727, respectively. In the case of Burma, it was due to an increase in the number of emigrants from the ports in the districts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari and Madras and this was ascribed to the high prices of food grains locally, to the greater demand for labour in Burma and to improved shipping facilities to Rangoon. In the case of Ceylon the increase was more marked (the number being 149,999 in 1922 as against 98,272 in 1921). The larger number of emigrants from the ports in the Rāmnād district owing to the revival of the tea and rubber industries in the colony accounted for the increase in the departures to Ceylon. The number of persons recorded as having taken passages to ports outside the Presidency but within British India was 15,742 against 13,290 in the previous year. The great majority of these consisted, as usual, of passengers from South Kanara to Bombay coast ports. The number of persons who returned from Burma and Ceylon also showed an increase this year by 20,711 and 15,450, respectively. This increase was the natural result of the increase in the number of emigrants to these two countries, and of the improvements in the steamer service to Burma. The number of persons who returned from the Straits Settlements decreased from 55,466 to 34,475—the decrease being due to the good wages offered to the coolies there in consequence of the improvement in the prospects of the rubber industry.

MEDICAL RELIEF (1922)

[*Triennial Report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1922; Annual Report of the Medical College, 1922-23; Statistics of British India, Vol. III, Public Health—Hospitals*]

Medical institutions

247. Eighteen hospitals were closed during 1922 and 34 opened—the total number of institutions increasing during the year from 741 to 757. Of this number 711 were general institutions for the treatment of both males and females, while 46 rendered medical assistance exclusively to women and children. Assuming the population of the Presidency to be 42,318,985 (the number at the time of the last census) there were roughly one institution for every 55,904 of the general population and one women's hospital for every 466,266 of the female population. There was again a decrease in the number of State—special institutions (i.e., those reserved for special sections of the public) but local fund institutions increased from 532 to 542 during the year. At the end of 1922 there were 28 private-aided institutions and 59 non-aided institutions ; four of the former and 18 of the latter were exclusively for the treatment of women and children.

Relief

248. The total numbers of in-patients and out-patients treated during the year in all classes of institutions were 156,719 and 8.853,194, respectively, as compared with 152,701 and 8,563,775 in 1921. In State-public, local fund and private-aided institutions the daily average attendance of in-patients fell from 5,822 to 5,812 and that of out-patients increased from 50,029 to 51,922. The number of beds for men in these institutions increased from 4,327 to 4,478 and those for women from 3,139 to 3,381. The number of beds available in private non-aided dispensaries also rose from 1,099 to 1,273. The chief diseases for which in-patients were treated in the State-public, local fund and private aided institutions during the year were those of the generative and urinary systems, malaria and eye diseases. The number of in-patients treated for tuberculosis of the lung decreased slightly from 2,294 to 2,244 and the number of deaths from this disease also fell to 325 from 336 in the preceding year. Ordinary operations were performed on 327,660 and major surgical operations on 23,557 patients. 313,288 of the former and 20,795 of the latter were cured as a result of the operations. The ratio of deaths per cent to total of those who underwent ordinary operations was 0·29, and to total of those on whom major operations were performed to 2·95.

Finance

249. Government contributed Rs. 28,49,335 during the year as compared with Rs. 27,24,574 in 1921. Local Fund and Municipal contributions decreased from Rs. 24,44,366 to Rs. 23,47,634. Public subscriptions also fell from Rs. 1,64,240 to Rs. 1,31,845. The total miscellaneous receipts for 1922 amounted to Rs. 2,03,408 as against Rs. 2,95,098 in 1921. The total expenditure fell slightly from Rs. 56,63,845 to Rs. 55,46,473—there being increases under salaries and repairs to buildings and decreases under medicines, diet and miscellaneous charges.

Madras Medical College

250. The total number of students on the rolls of the college fell during the year from 634 to 610 of whom 58 were women. The total percentage of passes at all examinations was 53·4 and that at the final examination 46·7—the highest during the last three years. There was a satisfactory decrease in the number of failures in all examinations except those in Surgery in which the percentage of failures showed an increase. The number of books in the library was increased by 328 during the year. Instruction in physical training was given by a qualified instructor and the various events at the annual sports of the college were well contested.

Medical schools

251. Of the five Medical Schools in the Presidency those at Madras (Rayapuram), Tanjore and Vizagapatam, provide a complete course in medical studies, that at Calicut receives only first and second year students and that at Madura only third and final year students. There was an increase in the number of students who attended each

of the schools during the year—the total number being 1,336 as against 1,262 in the previous year. One hundred and forty-three out of the 260 students admitted were Brahmans. There was a fall in the percentage of students who passed the Board examinations to those examined. The Pathology and Physiology and the Chemistry and Materia Medica departments at Rayapuram School had to be accommodated in one laboratory owing to want of space. At Tanjore estimates for an anatomical block are being prepared by the Superintending Engineer and improvements in the sanitary arrangements and in the gas and water fittings are being effected. No special buildings have as yet been erected for the schools at Vizagapatam and Calicut. The new school buildings at Coimbatore are nearly finished. As soon as they are completed the Medical School at Calicut will be transferred to Coimbatore. Expenditure due on all the schools during the year amounted to Rs. 3,56,108 and receipts to Rs. 54,069.

THE PASTEUR INSTITUTE, COONOOR

(1ST MARCH 1922 TO 28TH FEBRUARY 1923)

[*Report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for 1922-23*]

252. The number of patients who underwent a full course of treatment during the year was 3,375, a decrease of 96 on the previous year's number. The decrease was due to the gradual introduction of the scheme for the issue of anti-rabic vaccine to Government Headquarter Hospitals in the Presidency. Three patients died during the course of treatment from hydrophobia. Ten died within fifteen days of completion of treatment and twelve after more than fifteen days from the date of its completion. The last are classed as failures giving a rate of 0·35 per cent. One hundred and two persons for various reasons did not complete the full course of treatment and are, therefore, excluded from the above figures, as are also two patients who had symptoms of hydrophobia on arrival. Advice but no treatment was given to 171 persons. At the close of the year 103 patients remained under treatment. The virus was in its 846th passage on 28th February 1923. As a tentative measure carbolized anti-rabic vaccine was issued to the Superintendents of certain Government Headquarter Hospitals so that persons bitten by animals suspected to be rabid might be saved long railway journeys to Coonoor. 1,248 persons were so treated during the year ; of these, five died less, and four more, than fifteen days after the completion of treatment. Receipts during the year, excluding refunds of advances amounted to Rs. 40,880-11-1 and expenditure, excluding advances to patients and building charges, to Rs. 38,288-6-6.

MENTAL HOSPITALS (1922)

[*G.O. No. 1427, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, dated the 27th August 1923 ; Statistics of British India, Vol. III, Public Health—Lunatic Asylums*]

253. The three mental hospitals at Madras, Waltair and Calicut had accommodation for 1,058 patients and the daily average population was 967 as compared with 917 in 1921. There was a steady fall in the number of female lunatics admitted. Five persons were admitted as voluntary patients during the year. Of a total of 1,286 in-patients 157 were discharged as cured and 82 died. The total number of criminal lunatics under observation rose from 189 to 206. The daily average sick list swelled from 104 to 125. The returns show that, of the various professions, general labourers, cultivating tenants, teachers and students provided the greatest number of inmates. It is observed from an examination of the previous occupations of the inmates that urban

occupations tend to contribute more cases of insanity than other occupations. As usual the majority of the patients were aged between 20 and 40. The receipts from paying patients increased from Rs. 31,726-1 9 to Rs. 34,329-12-9. Regular inspections were carried out by both official and non-official visitors. Various amusements were provided for the patients in the mental hospitals. Steps are being taken to bring these institutions into line with the mental hospitals in the United Kingdom. The Indian Lunacy Act was specially amended last year in order to allow of the asylums being styled "Mental Hospitals," with a view to emphasizing the fact that these institutions are intended to serve as hospitals where modern scientific treatment can be afforded to mental patients, rather than as prisons where lunatics can be interned. The Government have accordingly directed the change of the designation of the asylums in this Presidency into "Mental Hospitals."

SANITATION (1922)

[*The thirty-third annual report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the fifty-ninth annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for the year 1922*]

Municipalities

254. No addition was made to the number of municipalities in the Presidency during 1922. The attention bestowed by some municipal councils on their water purification plant left much to be desired. Perhaps the worst instance in this respect was found at Adōni where the water after passing through the filter beds was many times worse than before it entered, owing to the fact that the beds had been entirely neglected for years. The District Health Scheme which was experimentally introduced in the five districts of Vizagapatam, Kistna, Kurnool, Tanjore and Trichinopoly, passed its probationary period successfully. The number of public latrines of all descriptions was 1,966 which represents an increase of 20 over that of the previous year. Municipal councils still show a preference for insanitary enclosures and are reluctant to adopt standard types. The total public latrine accommodation is still far short of requirements in most municipalities. The total number of private latrines was 172,280 as against 171,987 in the previous year. Of these 86·5 per cent were conserved as against 85·2 per cent in the previous year. In several municipalities the percentage of latrines under municipal management was under fifty. Out of 432,465 houses which were of a class that should possess private latrines only 39·8 per cent were provided with them. It appears that so far municipal councils have failed to enforce the provisions of the Municipal Act in this connexion. According to information furnished by municipalities the total allotment for sanitation amounted to Rs. 37,22,601 and the expenditure to Rs. 23,47,455 against Rs. 37,02,487 and Rs. 25,82,859, respectively, in the previous year. The provision for sanitation amounted to 45·7 per cent of the income, and expenditure during nine months of the year was 56·6 per cent of the allotment. Of the total allotment conservancy absorbed Rs. 18,89,196 and the improvement of the water-supply Rs. 8,91,327. The municipalities of Anakāpalle, Tiruvālūr, Erode, Udamalpet and Palghat spent more than 80 per cent of their allotments. In eleven municipalities the expenditure was less than 50 per cent of the allotment. Owing to the financial position no progress was made in the matter of water-supply and drainage schemes.

District Boards

Conservancy arrangements existed in 993 villages of which 867 were unions. Excluding the districts of Chingleput, Tinnevelly and Bellary for which no information was furnished, this gives a percentage of 2·1 of the total number of villages. In most unions the arrangements are of a primitive nature and conservancy is much neglected owing both to inadequate menial staff and want of supervision. The aggregate expenditure on sanitation for which information is available was Rs. 9,85,213 or 65·2 per cent of the allotment against Rs. 8,18,417 or 53·3 per cent in 1921. While seven district boards spent more than 65 per

cent of their allotment, in some of the districts the expenditure was only a small percentage, South Kanara being last with an expenditure of only 38·8 per cent of the total allotment.

VACCINATION 1922-23.

[*Annual Report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1922-23 : Report on the working of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for the year 1922-23 : Statistics of British India, Vol. III, Public Health—Vaccination*]

255. Consequent upon the introduction of the complete District Health Scheme the Vaccination Department as such was in process of being merged in the wider Public Health Department. The Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination who previously supervised only vaccination work were made responsible for all branches of Public Health Administration, and their designation was altered to that of Health Inspectors. District Medical and Sanitary Officers (now styled District Medical Officers) were relieved of the duty of supervising the work of these Inspectors on the appointment of District Health Officers for each district. The new scheme of vaccination was in operation throughout the Presidency, but the group system was not adopted in certain districts. There was a decided improvement in the quality of the work accomplished compared with that under the old scheme. The total quantity of vaccine lymph supplied during the year by the King Institute, Guindy, was 2,079,915 cases, an increase of 250,000 cases as compared with that of last year. Lanolinated lymph formed the bulk of the supply, but the general policy followed during the latter half of the year was the gradual substitution of lanolinated by glycerinated lymph wherever this was found possible. Consequently the total amount of glycerine lymph issued during the year was considerably increased and formed nearly one-fourth of the total amount of lymph used for vaccination purposes. Compared with the two previous years the total number of vaccination operations during the year shows a marked and satisfactory increase. The total number of primary vaccinations (including secondary vaccinations) and re-vaccinations in 1920-21 was 1,568,270, in 1921-22, 1,474,719 and in 1922-23, 1,761,616. This increase is due to the widespread prevalence of smallpox throughout the presidency, the large number of unregistered births and out-births detected during the hot weather, when routine vaccination was suspended and to the increase in the minimum prescribed for vaccinators. The districts which showed the largest increases were Vizagapatam, Guntūr, Kistna and Malabar. The cost per case decreased from As. 8·8 to As. 7-10. This decrease is to be attributed to the better quality of the lymph supplied, the suspension of vaccination work during the hot weather and the free supply of lymph to local bodies. The total number of successful vaccinations and re-vaccinations increased to 1,125,726, the figure for 1921-22 being 968,901, and the ratio per cent of successful cases from 74·6 to 78·2. In the Northern Range, vaccination in municipalities showed an improvement chiefly due to the failure of the Non-co-operation movement. There was a fall in local fund areas chiefly due to deficiency in quantity and quality of the personnel. For the Presidency the percentage of successful primary vaccinations has increased progressively during the past two years, the actual figures for 1920-21, 1921-22 and 1922-23 being 61·5 per cent, 78·6 per cent and 87·6 per cent, respectively. The figure for 1922-23 is one which American authorities consider to be very satisfactory. As compared with the previous year there was a rise of 22,335 in the number of children under one year of age successfully vaccinated. The number of operations performed in municipalities during the year was 203,107 as against 169,923 in the previous year. Deaths from smallpox numbered 26,526 as against 9,792 in 1921-22. General

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CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION.

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

256. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

EDUCATION (1922–23)

[*Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1922–23 ; Statistics of British India, Vol. V, Education*]

Administrative events of the year

257. The inspecting agency was reorganized during the year, each district in the Presidency with the exception of the Nilgiris, being placed under the charge of a District Educational Officer, the Sub-Assistant Inspectors and Supervisors being replaced by Deputy Inspector of Schools. The Madras University Act of 1923 was passed during the year. With the introduction of the Madras Elementary Education Act and the creation of the District Educational Councils, Government considered it desirable to withdraw as far as possible from the direct control of elementary schools. In accordance with this policy 167 Government elementary girls' schools were handed over to local bodies during the period under review. Government published the Provident Fund Rules for teachers in non-pensionable service and steps are being taken to have the scheme introduced. The policy of encouraging and specially aiding vocational and pre-vocational classes was continued during the year and much progress in experiments was made.

General statistics

258. The number of public institutions rose by 1,634 to 38,838 and their strength by 101,654 to 1,742,493, the increase representing 4·4 per cent and 5·8 per cent, respectively, against 3·6 per cent and 3 per cent in the previous year. There was a considerable fall in the number and strength of private institutions, the percentages of decrease being 30 per cent in their number and 25 per cent in strength. Taking all institutions together, there was an accession of 599 to their number and 78,095 to their strength. The percentage of those under instruction to the whole population was 4·5 against 4·3 in the previous year, the increase occurring mainly in the case of boys, 7·3 this year against 7·0 last year.

University and collegiate education

259. During the year the Madras University Act of 1923 was passed ; the act provides for the reorganization of the Madras University with a view to establishing a teaching and residential University at Madras while enabling the University to continue to exercise due control over the quality of the teaching given by the colleges which are to constitute the University or are affiliated to it. The constitution of the old University has been remodelled mainly along the lines of the Calcutta University Commission's Report and the controlling authorities of the University are now the Senate, the Syndicate, the Academic Council and the Council of Affiliated Colleges. Owing to the opening of the B.A. classes in the Sri Minakshi College, Chidambaram, the number of first-grade colleges for men rose by 1 to 15. The number of Oriental Colleges was 16 against 13 in 1921–22. The Sri Minakshi College was granted further affiliation in Group V, History and Economics of the B.A. course;

the Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, in Group II, Natural Science, Physics and Chemistry of the Intermediate course : the Islamiah College, Vāniyambādi, in Group I, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry, of the Intermediate course ; and the St. Francis High School, Palamcottah, was affiliated in Group III, Histories, Logic and Languages, of the Intermediate course. The affiliation of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, in Agriculture, as a new department of Science in the Faculty of Arts and science, was also sanctioned during the year. The total number of students in Arts Colleges for men was 8,631 against 7,892 in the previous year. Out of these, 420 were undergoing Honours courses and 6 Post-graduate courses. There were 20 second-grade colleges and the number of students reading in them was 2,208. The development of the Madras University Training Corps into a full battalion of 671 ranks marks a distinct stage in the progress of all-round educational facilities for the youths of this Presidency.

Secondary education

260. The number of public secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 478 to 486 and their strength from 150,839 to 153,330. The number of girls reading in these schools was 2,196 against 1,986 in 1921-22. There was again an increase in the number of candidates for the public examination under the S.S.L.C. scheme. The total expenditure on secondary schools for Indian boys increased by Rs. 2·63 lakhs to Rs. 62·70 lakhs, to which public funds contributed 26 per cent, fees 59 per cent and other sources 15 per cent. The average cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 40·5 and each pupil paid an average fee of Rs. 23·7 Government have ordered that the concession of exemption from payment of examination fees for the S.S.L.C. public examination shall apply to the pupils belonging to the depressed classes, such as Parayas, Pallas, and Valluvans in the Tamil districts, Malas and Madigas in the Telugu districts and Cherumas and Holeyas in the Malabar and South Kanara districts.

Elementary education

261. The number of public elementary schools for Indian boys increased by 1,482 to 35,106 and their strength by 87,391 to 1,459,170. The percentage of male pupils to the male population rose from 5·7 to 6·1. The total number of teachers employed in public schools increased by 3,898 to 62,184 and the number of trained teachers by 4,509 to 27,302, the large increase being mainly due to the inclusion of certificated, drawing and drill instructors in the statistics for 1922–23. The percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers employed also increased from 39 to 44. The number of buildings constructed during the year for the accommodation of public elementary schools for boys was 443, of which 103 were for schools under public management. The total expenditure on these schools rose from Rs. 87 lakhs to Rs. 98 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 76 per cent, fees 7 per cent and other sources 17 per cent. The average cost per pupil was Rs. 6–13–3 against Rs. 6–3–5 in the previous year. The year under report saw, for the first time, in the history of education in this presidency, the actual introduction in seven municipalities of compulsory elementary education.

Special education

262. The number of Government Training schools for Masters fell from 72 to 68 and their strength from 5,016 to 4,704. There was no increase in the number of aided training schools but their strength rose from 1,468 to 1,521. The Madras Children Act of 1920 came into force in the Presidency town of Madras on 1st December 1922. The Reformatory School, Chingleput, and the Industrial School, Ranipet, which was newly started in the year under report, were declared senior and junior certified schools, respectively. The Inspector of European schools was appointed as the Chief Inspector of Certified Schools to see that the provisions of the Children Act and rules thereunder are properly carried out. There were on March 31, 1923, 8,367 students receiving instruction of a technical character as compared with 7,676 in the previous year. Of the former, 808 were pursuing art education, 1,692 technical education in engineering subjects and telegraphy, 2,747 industrial education including agriculture and 3,120 commercial education.

Women's education

263. The number of schools solely intended for Indian girls rose from 2,803 to 2,919. The number of women under instruction in the colleges for women rose from 335 to 367. There was also an increase in the number of students reading in college for men, from 49 to 62. The number of public secondary schools rose from 57 to 59 and their strength was 11,770. As many as 13,389 girls, inclusive of 2,196 in boys' (secondary) schools, were receiving secondary education during the year as against 12,358 in the previous year. The number of elementary schools rose by 141 to 2,772 and their strength by 10,438 to 183,008. There was an increase of Rs. 2·69 lakhs in the expenditure on secondary and elementary schools for Indian girls. In December 1922, Government sanctioned, with effect from 1st April 1923, the transfer of the temporary L.T. class attached to the Queen Mary's College, to the new buildings of the Government Secondary and Training School for Mistresses, Triplicane, and in January 1923 the conversion of this class into a Training College for women with effect from 1st April 1923, to be known as the Lady Willingdon Training College, was sanctioned.

European education

264. The total number of European institutions fell from 91 to 90 as the St. Joseph's Middle School, Tellicherry, ceased to be under the Code of Regulations for European Schools, but their strength rose by 490 to 10,128. Of 715 teachers employed in these schools, 584 were certificated teachers. One hundred and thirty-seven candidates appeared for the European High School examination, and 99 passed. For the Middle School examination 242 candidates were examined and 144 passed. The provincialization of the Lawrence Memorial School, Ootacamund, which was sanctioned with effect from 13th December 1921, was held in abeyance and the question is under further consideration. Orders sanctioning the starting, as a temporary measure, of an aided Training School for European women in conjunction with the Lawrence Memorial School were issued during the year. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 23·16 lakhs to Rs. 25·28 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 35 per cent, fees 20 per cent and other sources 45 per cent.

Education of Muhammadans

265. The number of public institutions intended for Muhammadans increased by 305 to 2,338 while the number of private institutions decreased by 158 to 727. This phenomenon is not to be deprecated since it is due to the gradual conversion of unrecognized schools into recognized schools through the efforts of the Muhammadan inspecting agency. In Arts Colleges there were 184 Muhammadan students, against 141 in 1921–22 and the number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose by 222 to 8,045. In the eight training schools for masters and the three for mistresses, 235 and 59 students, respectively, were under training. The total number of public institutions intended for Mappillas increased by 26 to 583. The expenditure on Muhammadan and Mappilla schools rose from Rs. 11·76 lakhs to Rs. 14·6 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 75 per cent, fees 2 per cent and other sources 23 per cent.

Education of Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras and other backward classes

266. The number of public institutions for Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras rose by 394 to 8,045, and their strength by 10,977 to 222,611. The total number of Ādi-Drāvida and Ādi-Āndhra scholars in public schools in the different stages of instruction rose by 4,393 to 161,506. The number of schools intended for aboriginal and hill tribes in the Agency tracts rose by 29 to 211 and their strength by 676 to 6,875. The total number of pupils belonging to the aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Agency tracts was 7,091 (6,803 boys and 288 girls). In the Presidency as a whole, the total number of pupils belonging to the aboriginal classes was 15,418 (13,856 boys and 1,562 girls) as against 12,693 (11,493 boys and 1,200 girls). There were 14 schools exclusively working for the benefit of these tribes in the Kurnool district and 53 schools on the Nilgiris. The schools for the deaf and dumb at Guntūr, Madras and Palamcottah and the schools for the blind at Rentachentla and Palamcottah continued to do good work.

267. The total expenditure on education rose during the year from Rs. 340 lakhs to Rs. 346 lakhs. This increase was mainly contributed by private funds. The proportion which public funds and private funds bore to the total expenditure was 55 and 45 per cent, respectively, against 57 and 43 per cent in the previous year. The total direct expenditure rose by Rs. 16·64 lakhs to Rs. 261·76 lakhs, towards which increase public funds alone contributed Rs. 9·48 lakhs. The amount spent by local boards and municipalities on their own schools showed an increase of over Rs. 10 lakhs which was met almost in full from provincial subsidies. Indirect expenditure fell from Rs. 94·87 lakhs to Rs. 84·01 lakhs, the decrease occurring mainly under building and equipment though there was a slight fall under University and direction and inspection. Provincial subsidies to local bodies including the amounts placed at the disposal of District Educational Councils towards elementary education rose by Rs. 14 lakhs to Rs. 76·51 lakhs. Finance

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REFORMATORY SCHOOL, CHINGLEPUT (1922)

[*Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, Judicial, etc.—Jails*]

268. The strength of the Reformatory School, Chingleput, on 31st December 1922 was 231 as against 245 in the previous year. The number of admissions increased from 61 to 76. The new arrivals included 28 Mappilla juvenile criminals who were concerned in the last Mappilla rebellion. Of the 76 who were newly admitted 56 were first offenders, 8 had one previous conviction, one had three, and three had four previous convictions. There were 44 ordinary discharges and 41 special discharges. The sanitation of the premises and the surroundings was carefully attended to. Anti-malarial measures were as usual carried out. The total number of in-patients in the hospital was 83 as against 69 in 1921. This increase was due to a mild attack of influenza and chicken-pox at the beginning of the year. The monitorial system continued to work satisfactorily. The number of punishments increased from 10 to 55. The total earnings of the boys were Rs. 1,116 as against Rs. 1,070 in the previous year. The religious and moral tone of the boys continued to receive special attention. Seventeen boys appeared for elementary school-leaving certificate examination and 6 of them won "good" certificates and the rest "fair." For the various Government technical examinations 36 candidates in all were presented and 20 came out successful. In the elementary grade weaving examination, the school secured the first and second ranks in the Presidency. Football, hockey and cricket were played by the boys as usual. Twenty-one new books were added to the library. Deducting the income from the industrial departments in the school the net expenditure was Rs. 0·46 lakhs as against Rs. 0·51 lakhs in 1921. The reports received in respect of 325 ex-pupils show that 155 or 47·7 per cent bore a good character and one was prosecuting higher studies. The school was declared a Senior Certified School under the Madras Children Act of 1920 with effect from 1st December 1922. The arrangement under which a medical officer was the Superintendent of the school was terminated. An Educational Officer in the Madras Educational Service was appointed Superintendent and the post of Deputy Superintendent in the school was abolished.

MISCELLANEOUS (1922–23)

Government examinations

269. Thirteen examinations were held at 560 centres during the year and the number of candidates registered was 44,124 of whom 37,015 were examined. All examinations were held at several centres in the Presidency and six were also conducted at centres outside it. The examination for secondary school-leaving certificates was held in March, 289 institutions sending up pupils against 247 last year. The total number of candidates registered was 14,040; of these 12,019 sat for the examination and 11,969 completed their certificates. Forty-four pupils, who belonged to the depressed classes, were admitted to the examination without payment of fee. Twenty-eight candidates registered their names for the special examination for teachers who failed in the matriculation or upper secondary examination and are desirous of being admitted for secondary grade training. Twenty-seven appeared for the examination, one candidate being a woman. There were 37 entries for the women's secondary grade final examination and 36 sat for the examination. For the training school-leaving certificate examination 7,458 candidates were registered from 121 schools and 7,170 appeared; of this number 703 were for the secondary grade, 2,598 for the elementary higher and 3,869 for the elementary lower grades. 4,021 passed the examination, the numbers in the three grades being 569, 1,501 and 1,951, respectively. There were 26 candidates from seven schools for the examination for teachers' certificates in physical training for women. Twenty-three candidates were examined and 20 were successful. For the public examination held at the end of the advanced course of studies in Sanskrit schools 179 candidates registered their names; 158 sat for the examination and 86 passed. For the test for Sub-Assistant Inspectors in the Educational department 139 candidates registered their names; 83 appeared for the examination and 55 including 2 women were successful. The technical examinations were held at 57 centres. The total number of candidates registered for the three grades of examination was 19,612, of whom 1,009 were for the Advanced, 6,609 for the Intermediate, and 11,994 for the Elementary grades. The total number of candidates examined was 15,352, of whom 6,864 were successful. Eight hundred and forty women appeared for the examination and 447 passed it. 1,803 candidates registered their names for the special test examinations; of these 1,382 presented themselves for examination and 693 passed. For the technical teachers' certificate examinations 104 candidates were registered, 87 examined and 56 declared to have passed. Five hundred and fifty-two candidates were registered for the European school and scholarship examinations, 204 being for the high and 348 for the middle grades. Two hundred candidates appeared for the high and 339 for the middle grades and of these 148 and 198, respectively, were successful. The examination for teachers' certificates in drill and gymnastics was held at four centres; 142 candidates registered their names, 136 were examined and 107 passed the examination. Four candidates were registered for the examination for the award of certificates of competency to instruct blind and deaf-mute children; three candidates appeared for the examination and two passed. Both the successful candidates were women. Receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,59,716 against Rs. 2·37 lakhs last year. There was a decrease in expenditure from Rs. 2·18 lakhs to Rs. 2,15,874.

Lawrence Memorial School, Ootacamund

270. On the 31st March 1923, there were on the rolls of the school 301 boys and 174 girls. Of these, 11 boys and 15 girls were day scholars. There were 217 on the waiting list of whom 186 were the children of British officers and soldiers serving or having served in India. At the Government examinations, 4 boys and 4 girls passed the European High School examination and 6 boys and 5 girls the Middle School examination. In the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local examinations, the results were excellent, all the pupils presented having passed, viz., 2 boys and 3 girls in the Senior examination and 7 boys and one girl in the

Junior examination. The Telegraph class was equipped with additional apparatus during the year, and the classes in music, typewriting, drawing and cooking and dress-making continued to work satisfactorily. Exercises in drill and gymnastics were carried on regularly and the pupils continued to evince a lively interest in the games and sports—hockey, football and cricket being played. Twenty-two pupils were on the detachment of the Auxiliary Force, and there was a troop of girl guides in the school. The Inspector of European Schools was satisfied with the continued efficiency of the school, and Her Excellency Lady Willingdon and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India who visited the school recorded their appreciation of the excellent work done. Including the opening balance, the total receipts during the financial year 1922–23 amounted to Rs. 3·42 lakhs and the total expenditure to Rs. 3·36 lakhs leaving a closing balance of Rs ·06 lakh.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1922-23)

[*Statistics of British India, Vol. IV, Administrative, etc.—Press and Publications*]

Public libraries

271. The number of visitors to the Connemara Public Library rose by 2,902 to 26,020; the total number of volumes consulted was, however, 39,256 as against 41,279 in the previous year. This decrease was probably the result of the growing elimination of unnecessary references consequent upon the improved methods of issuing books. During the year 351 standard works comprising 427 volumes were added to the library. Of these 207 (239 volumes) were purchased and 144 (188 volumes) were received as gifts, including collections of 77 volumes received from the Registrar, University of Calcutta, and of 33 volumes of standard works, besides 127 volumes of serial publications, presented by the Chief Secretariat as a result of the reorganization of its library. The card index of recent additions was completed and a manuscript catalogue of all the scientific periodicals in the library, arranged alphabetically according to their places of publication, was also compiled. At the University library the total number of readers was 14,467 as against 11,552 in 1921–22, the number of volumes consulted being 21,491 as against 24,044 in the previous year. The number of persons who took books on loan increased from 235 to 310 and the number of volumes taken out also increased from 5,882 to 6,649.

Connemara Public Library

University Library

Oriental Manuscripts Library

272. The number of manuscripts acquired for the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the year was 307 as against 1,141 in the previous year. Of these, 52 were acquired by transcription, 4 by restoration, 223 by purchase, and 28 as presentation. This great fall was due to the fact that no tour was undertaken at all for the collection of manuscripts owing to financial stringency. The publication section of the library was busy with the publication of *Brahmasidhi*. The popularity and usefulness of the library were well maintained. The number of visitors to the library during the year was 3,277 as against 2,437 last year and the number of books consulted by them rose from 4,499 during 1921–22 to 5,720. Many manuscripts were also lent.

The Madras Record Office (1922-23)

273. The only additions to the Madras Record Office during the year were records from the Secretariat, which are transferred annually under Standing Orders. Owing to the fact that the Standing Orders have been modified so as to allow the earlier transfer of records to the Record Office, an unusually large quantity of records was received during the year. There was also a large accession of printed publications from the Secretariat Library. The publication of the Records of Fort St. George was continued, and during the year Public Consultations, 1699, 1700 and 1701, were issued, while Public Consultations, 1702, and Letters from Fort St.

George, 1700-01, were under publication. Volume VIII May 1751 to December 1753 of the Diary of Ananda Ranga Pillai was also published and Volume IX was in the press. The volume of the Baramahal Records on Police was prepared for issue. During the first quarter the special staff employed for mending was engaged in arranging the records recently transferred; subsequently their services were also utilized for work in connexion with the re-organization of the Secretariat Library. Little progress was therefore made in the mending of records.

Periodicals (1922)

274. The number of periodicals increased during the year from 254 to 277. Ninety-six journals were newly published, and seventy-two ceased to exist while one discontinued treating of public news or commenting thereon. Eighty-three or 23·71 per cent of the newspapers were published in English, the remainder appearing in the various vernaculars. The chief English dailies were the *Hindu*, *Madras Mail*, *Daily Express*, *New India*, *Justice* and *Swarajya*. The circulation of all except *Swarajya* remained constant throughout the year. *Swarajya* increased its sales from 3,000 to 5,000, its popularity being apparently increased by the violence of its attacks on the Government and European community. The chief place amongst the Tamil newspapers continued to be held by the *Ananda Bodhini*, the circulation of which amounted to 14,000. Next in order of importance came *Swadesamitran* (7,000), the *Messenger of the Sacred Heart* (4,300) and *Tamil Nadu* (3,000). Amongst Telugu papers the *Andhra Patrika* had the largest circulation (8,200). Other leading vernacular journals were the *Malayala Manorama* (4,000), and the *Vrittanta Patrika* (Kanarese 4,100). The repeal of the Press Act resulted in the attacks on the Government in the extremist newspapers becoming more violent in character, but otherwise there was little change in the tone of the press during the year. The number of publications declared forfeit under the Indian Press Act and the Criminal Procedure Code increased from 71 in 1921 to 125 in 1922. The rise may probably be explained by the large amount of seditious literature which is being sent to India from Communist sources in Europe. Three papers, *the Qami Report*, *Azad Hind* and *Bharat Tilak* were prosecuted under the Indian Penal Code for sedition. The proprietor of *Azad Hind* apologised and the case against him was withdrawn, but the editor and publisher was convicted as were also the two individuals responsible for editing, printing and publishing *the Qami Report* and *Bharat Tilak*.

Registration of books (1922-23)

275. The year under review saw a general increase in literary effort. The number of books rose from 2,973 to 3,025 and the number of periodicals from 665 to 735. The increase was noticeable in the case, both of publications in English and other European languages (from 877 to 900) and of vernacular publications (from 2,398 to 2,467). But Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese publications decreased in number from 853, 114, and 134 to 843, 101 and 94, respectively. For the first time there appeared publications in Eskimo, Malaya and Swahili. As usual books of a religious nature headed the list with a total of 1,325. Of the districts, Madras was far ahead of the rest with 1,586, Kistna coming second with 310, while Anantapur continued to occupy the last place with 4 publications.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

276. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1922-23)

Government Museum

277. The number of visitors rose by 79,448 to 685,732. Excluding the festival occasions of Kannupongal and Dwadasi which generally attract a large number of visitors, the average attendance was 212,632 against 226,825 last year. The re-arrangement of the Invertebrate and Fish Galleries was so far completed as to allow of their being re-opened to the public in December. The Museum Theatre was in greater demand than in previous years and was used during the year on 38 occasions (excluding rehearsals). The Superintendent visited Kambakkam Hills, Chingleput district, and Krusadai Island, Pamban, and collected several specimens for the Museum and in particular many interesting invertebrate zoological specimens. Demonstrations were given by the Superintendent to the students and the teachers of Madras schools. The entire collection of wood carvings and paintings that have been acquired from time to time was scrutinized and the best specimens of each type were selected for exhibition, duplicates being presented to the Provincial Museum, Lucknow, and the State Museum, Pudukkōttai. Valuable additions were made to the collection of coins and copperplate grants relating to South India. Work on the Herbarium was continued and over 150 plants illustrative of the flora of Madras City and neighbourhood were added to it during the year. The work connected with the recording of languages by gramophone was continued.

Meteorology (1922-23)

278. The chief work of the Madras Meteorological office was as usual the publication of the Madras Daily Weather Report and of the Presidency Rainfall Tables. The publication of the Madras Daily Weather Report was stopped from 1st January to 31st March 1923 under the orders of the Government of India. Excluding Meteorological observatories, there were 397 rain-registering stations in the Presidency, of which about 90 per cent were inspected. There were 100 rain-gauge stations in the Indian States of Pudukkōttai, Travancore, Cochin and Coorg.

Astronomy (1922)

Kodaikanal Observatory

279. At Kodaikānal the record of solar activity was maintained as in former years. Spectroheliograms of the sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 322 days, and in hydrogen light on 213 days, spectroheliograms of prominences on the limb were obtained on 273 days and direct solar photographs on a scale of 8 inches to the diameter on 324 days. Compared with 1921 there was again a marked decrease in spot activity amounting to 38 per cent in the case of new groups observed. The decrease was again greater in the southern hemisphere than in the northern. The approximate mean latitude of the spots was 8°·5 and 8°·2 in the northern and southern hemispheres respectively. The prominence records show a decrease of 21 per cent compared with the previous year and the general distribution in latitude remains essentially the same. The large grating spectrograph was employed in photographing solar and arc spectra for the study of the shift of the sodium lines, and also for a study of a new cause of displacement of arc lines. A prism spectrograph has been used for photographing solar and arc spectra and also the spectrum of Venus. A continuous registration of earthquakes is made with a Milne seismograph and 93 earthquakes were recorded during the year. Continuous photographic records of the magnetic elements and absolute eye observations were continued as in former years. No "Great" and 132 "Moderate" storms were recorded during the year.

Madras Observatory

At Madras the only astronomical observations made are those for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India. The time gun at Fort St. George failed on 22 occasions out of 731 giving a percentage of success of 97·0. Most of the failures were due to faults in the firing apparatus and to contacts on the line outside the observatory. The time ball at the harbour was dropped correctly on every day except one when it failed at both 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The 7 p.m. radio signals from Calcutta were received on one day only in the year. A wireless receiving set to observe the signals directly was not installed for want of funds. The 16 hour roll of signals was sent to the Telegraph office every day as usual.

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1922–23)

Archæology

280. On the conservation of ancient monuments in the Southern Circle and on the upkeep of roads connected with them expenditure during the year 1922-23 amounted to Rs. 19,451-5-9, of which Rs. 18,847-8-3 were spent in the Madras Presidency. The wide-reaching scheme of conservation which is still in progress among the vast remains of Vijayanagar, "the City of Victory," the birth place of the empire of that name and also of old the capital of its kings, continues to be based mainly on the programme sketched out by Sir John Marshall in his note of 17th June 1903. The site of Vijayanagar is a vast one teeming with ancient buildings covering some nine square miles and the fortifications and outposts of the city include a far larger area. During the last few years excellent progress has been made not only with the conservation work but also in providing good roads and pathways to the monuments. The removal and stacking of loose stone and clearing rank vegetation has taken some years to complete, but this work has now been completed so far as the more important buildings are concerned. A special overseer, with a gang of six men to assist him, was appointed to attend to the clearance of vegetation but it will, of course, always be necessary for an officer of this department to visit the place at least once a year to see that the buildings and roads are being properly maintained in good repair. The buildings contained within the old fort at Masulipatam in the Kistna district are being conserved as ancient monuments. What used to be the old Commissariat and quarters for the officers attached to the establishment was converted into the Port and Customs Office many years ago and this year the Arsenal was turned into an office for the Revenue Survey Department. It is just as well that these buildings should be used for some useful purpose as this means that they will be maintained in a better state of repair than would be possible if they were conserved merely as an ancient monument. The famous Gingee Fort is situated sixteen miles west of Tindivanam railway station in the South Arcot district. It stands on three high granite hills, connected together by lines of massive fortifications arranged in the form of a triangle. The triangular space enclosed is about three miles round and forms the inner or lower fort and the three hills are the citadels. The existing remains of the fort and its appurtenances consist of the fortifications and buildings in the lower fort, those on the three great hills, and the long ramparts and moat connecting them. Like many of the buildings at Vijayanagar, most of the temples at Gingee have been seriously damaged by treasure-seekers, and parts of others have been carried away to decorate neighbouring shrines. When the fort was first taken over by Department of Archæology, most of the buildings, gateways, bastions and ramparts were covered in jungle growth and no proper roads existed. It has taken many years to remove the rank vegetation and save the chief buildings from further decay and to provide good roads fit for motor traffic. Most of this work is now finished but extensive annual repairs will always be necessary to maintain the place in good order and from time to time special repairs will be required. Excellent progress was made during the year by the Public Works Department not only with the repairs but also in providing good road throughout the fort and pathways up the three hills. A sum of Rs. 2,433 was spent on special repairs to the buildings and gateways on Rajagiri, the

monuments on Krishnagiri, the Vellore Gate, Sadat Ulla Khan's Gate, Eastern Gate of inner fort, Venkataramana and Pattabhirama temples and the Kalyana Mahal. At Mahabalipuram, commonly known as the "Seven Pagodas," the chief work now in progress is the care of the young rain trees planted so as to form an avenue along the road from the village to the Shore Temple. A good road was made and the trees are receiving careful attention and are doing well and will eventually provide a shady avenue across the hot and sandy plain. The small pathways across the rocky hill where so many of these wonderful old rock-cut monuments are situated were demarcated with proper cut stones and the paths well gravelled and rammed to prevent scouring in the rains. Other noteworthy special repairs in this Circle that were brought to completion during the past year related to the Rock Fort at Dindigul, Virabhadra temple at Motupalle in the Guntūr district, containing important Chola inscriptions, the old gateway and handsome tomb of Abdul Wahab Khan in Kurnool town, the ruined Roman Catholic Portuguese Church at Porto Novo in the South Arcot district and the Dutch cemeteries at Tuticorin and Negapatam, respectively. The remaining works carried out in the Madras Presidency during the year under report amounted to sixty-nine different items and related to the usual annual repairs and recurring charges for the maintenance of those monuments which have been already repaired in the past and which are now in a good state of preservation. An illustrated memoir on "Pallava Architecture" and new "List of Protected Monuments in the Madras Presidency" are under preparation. Seven applications for photographs were received from the public and thirty-six photo-prints were supplied at a cost of Rs. 37-10-0. Expenditure on establishment amounted to Rs. 31,164.

Epigraphy

281. During the year 430 villages were visited, 683 inscriptions copied, 15 copper-plate grants examined and 11 photographs taken. The survey of the Hospet taluk (Bellary district) was taken up village by village and completed. The inspection of the Bapatla taluk (Guntūr district), left incomplete the previous year, was finished. In the Conjeeveram taluk (Chingleput district) 192 villages were visited for collection of epigraphs. Transcripts of inscriptions comprising 522 pages of supplemental matter for *South Indian Inscriptions* (Texts) Volume VI and 2,596 pages for Volume VII were prepared and sent to the press for publication. Two-hundred and fifty-four pages of matter were got ready for Volume VIII of the same series. The special establishment sanctioned for publication was disbanded in February last. The total number of inscriptions reviewed in the *Annual Report*, including the 81 epigraphs from the Madanapalle and Bapatla taluks collected in the year 1921-22, amounts to 764. About half of this number was revised from impressions for publication as the vernacular appendix to last year's report. The printing of the above matter is, however, in abeyance. Prominent mention may be made of the descriptive labels discovered at Mahabalipuram over two relief sculptures in the Varāha cave-temple explaining them to be those of the early Pallava kings Simhavishnu and his son Mahēndravarman (c. 6th century A.D.). An inscribed slab in the same place refers itself to the 65th year of king Nandivarman III (9th century A.D.) which is the highest regnal year hitherto known for him. A copper-plate grant of the same king informs us for the first time that he assumed kingship while yet young and that he conquered the Vallabha, Kaḷabhra, Kērala, Pāṇḍya, Chōḷa, Tuḷuva and Koṅkaṇa kings. Some of the epigraphs copied in the Madanapalle taluk, Chittoor district, belonging to about the 7th and 8th centuries A.D. refer to the Vaidumbas who then ruled over this part of the country.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

282. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ECCLESIASTICAL (1922-23)

Church of England

283. The Right Reverend Henry Whitehead, D.D., resigned the office of Bishop of Madras on 21st December 1922 at the conclusion of the eight months' furlough granted to him in April 1922. He was succeeded by the Right Reverend E. H. M. Waller, M.A., Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura, who was translated to the See of Madras and assumed charge of the diocese on the 1st January 1923. On the 31st March 1923 there were in all 285 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras. Four chaplains were granted leave out of India during the year and four vacancies occurred on the establishment, one of which was filled up. The Bishop of Madras and the Bishop in Tinnevelly each ordained two Indians as priests during the year and the Bishop of Dornakal ordained under the commission from the Bishop of Madras one deacon and five priests all of whom were Indians. Two clergymen received licences to officiate in the diocese of Madras during the year, one as chaplain and the other as Indian pastor. Two licences were issued by the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura. The Bishop visited Pondicherry, Cuddalore and Villupuram in January, and Tanjore and Negapatam in March. Alms and other offerings of the people made through clergymen ministering to English congregations amounted to Rs. 1,76,261-4-0 during the year.

Voluntary contributions

Church of Scotland

284. At the close of the year the establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain then in charge at Bangalore, one Senior Chaplain on leave, one Junior Chaplain at Madras, and one Junior Chaplain in Secunderabad, whose services had been placed at the disposal of the Army Department.

STATIONERY (1922-23)

285. The value of stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of 1922-23 was Rs. 6,96,085 of which English stores accounted for Rs. 4,69,460 and Indian stores Rs. 2,26,625. This represents a decrease on last year when the total value of stock in hand amounted to Rs. 8,09,069 of which Rs. 3,30,484 relates to English and Rs. 4,78,585 to Indian stores. The total value of stores received during the year was Rs. 12,15,707 (English stores Rs. 8,09,491 and Indian stores Rs. 4,06,216) as compared with Rs. 17,44,401 (English stores Rs. 7,25,003 and Indian stores Rs. 10,19,398) in 1921-22. The total value of issues during the year amounted to Rs. 12,70,760 (English stores Rs. 7,86,986 and Indian stores Rs. 4,83,774) against Rs. 18.57,385 (English stores Rs. 5,86,027 and Indian stores Rs. 12,71,358) last year. The value of stationery debited to Local

Receipts

Issues

Local Funds

Funds, etc., and of stationery issued on payment during the year aggregated Rs. 33,296 against Rs. 35,587 in 1921-22. The value of the closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 6,41,032 (English stores Rs. 4,91,965 and Indian stores Rs. 1,49,067) compared with Rs. 6,96,085 (English stores Rs. 4,69,460 and Indian stores Rs. 2,26,625) last year. Closing balance

GOVERNMENT PRESS (1922-23)

286. The total receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 1,73,465 against Rs. 1,21,891 in 1921-22. The increase was chiefly due to recoveries on account of chargeable work and to enhanced rates of subscription to the *Fort St. George Gazette* and Indian Law Reports. The expenditure was Rs. 6,57,318 against Rs. 6,43,332 in the previous year. **Finance**

287. The amount realized from the sale of Acts and books increased from Rs. 61,690 in 1921-22 to Rs. 92,472. Of this sum Rs. 9,843 were realized from sales by agents the value of which was Rs. 3,604 more than last year. The value of free supplies amounted to Rs. 72,854 against Rs. 53,763, while repealed Acts and obsolete publications valued at Rs. 3,049 were written off. The total number of copies supplied was 358,769 including 80,841 copies of Government orders placed on "Editors' Table." **Publications**

288. The number of standard pages printed during the year was 229,755 against 240,371 last year. The cost per page in the Ootacamund Branch Press fell from Rs. 4-10-5 to Rs. 2-10-9 but increased in the Central Press, Mount Road and Penitentiary branches. The total number of impressions was 115,001,424 against 128,643,460 in 1921-22. The cost per 1,000 impressions in the Central Press rose from Rs. 1-5-6 to Rs. 1-11-9 and there was an increase also in the branch presses. The rise in the cost per page and per 1,000 impressions in the Central and Mount Road branch presses was due in part to increase in the depreciation and interest on plant on account of re-valuation of dead stock in the quinquennial stock-taking, in part to exclusion of overhead charges for work done to the Census and in part to reduced outturn of machines for a considerable period owing to shortage of paper supply. The total debit against binding for all the presses amounted to Rs. 1,67,902 which represents an increase of Rs. 10,930 due to enhanced prices of binding materials. **Printing and binding**

289. The output of the type-foundry during the year was 35 punches, 173 matrices, 28,872 lb. of English and 4,118 lb. of vernacular types, 12,899 lb. of quads, 24,192 lb. of leads and clumps and 12,042 lb. of stereo and electro plates making a total of 82,123 lb. or 1,438 lb. more than in the previous year. 27,036 lb. of this type and other type material valued at Rs. 16,898 were issued on account of the High Court work transferred to the press on 4th January 1923. The cost of rubber stamps, pads, etc., supplied was Rs. 5,785 representing a decrease of 9 per cent on the value of those supplied in the previous year. The report on the quinquennial stock-taking of plant was submitted to Government on 1st February 1923 and the ledgers were opened with the revised valuation from 1st April 1922. This resulted in an increase of cost to Rs. 3,42,873. Plant to the value of Rs. 1,22,955 was added to stock and at the close of the year the book value of plant amounted to Rs. 13,03,981. The stock value of stores on 1st April 1922 was Rs 2,45,799. Receipts amounted to Rs. 6,72,069 and issues to Rs. 6,17,039 leaving a balance on 31st March 1923 valued at Rs. 3,00,829 against Rs. 2,45,799 in the previous year. The increase was due to heavy supplies of paper received from the Superintendent of Stationery at the end of the year. Printing bills for Government work executed at private presses during the year amounted to Rs. 64,323 compared with Rs. 61,557 in the previous year and the audit fees for checking bills of the private bodies amounted to Rs. 1,444. The total number of forms despatched during the year was 147 millions. **Miscellaneous**

CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1922)

[*G.O. No. 688, Local Self-Government (Public Health), dated the 21st April 1923; Statistics of British India, Vol. VI, Administrative, etc., Medico-legal investigations*]

Medico-legal investigations

290. The amount of work done during 1922 shows but small variations from that done in 1921. There was a slight decrease in the number of human poisoning cases and stain cases which were investigated. The number of animal poisoning cases also fell slightly but miscellaneous medico-legal cases increased. The total number of analyses of all sorts performed was 3,824 against 3,952 in 1921, the average per year for the previous 17 years being only 3,599.

Human poisoning

291. The number of human poisoning cases examined during the year was 220. Poison was detected in 108 cases, a percentage of 49·1 as compared with 40·6 in the previous year. The most common poisons detected were mercury, arsenic and opium.

Animal poisoning

292. The number of animal poisoning cases fell from 56 to 42. The percentage of detections was 43 per cent as against 32·1 in 1921. Arsenic was the most commonly found poison, but thevetin, the active principle of yellow oleander, ran it a close second. Mercury was detected in two cases.

Stains

293. Three hundred and ninety-nine cases were investigated for blood or seminal stains or both. The number of articles examined was 1,583, this figure being the highest on record. One thousand and sixty-five specimens of blood stains were sent to the Imperial Serologist, Calcutta.

General analyses

294. The number of general analyses rose from 564 to 570. One hundred and forty-four of these analyses were performed for the Customs Department, 122 for the General Hospital, Madras, 78 for the Officer in Charge, Medical Stores Depot, Madras, and smaller numbers for most of the other Government departments.

Miscellaneous

295. There were 27 miscellaneous cases with 170 articles against 21 cases with 211 articles in 1921. There was a marked increase in the number of bomb cases received during the year.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1922–23)

General statistics

296. The number of charitable institutions in the Presidency rose from 3,063 to 3,249 but the aggregate income decreased from Rs. 20·23 lakhs, 20 muras of rice and 6 garces of paddy to Rs. 19·12 lakhs, 20 muras of rice and 5 garces of paddy. 2,044 institutions were maintained entirely by public subscriptions and donations and by endowments of land and money, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 7·41 lakhs. Government supported 378 institutions at a cost of Rs. 3·42 lakhs (as against 326 institutions and Rs. 2·5 lakhs last year) and 206 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 3·95 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 621 institutions costing Rs. 4·34 lakhs devolved wholly or in part on local bodies. Institutions intended for helping travellers numbered 2,007. Of these 1,139 were reserved for Hindus and 802 were not restricted to any particular class or sect of people. Five hundred and thirty-six institutions, supported almost entirely by the general public, were maintained for the relief of Brahmans and 492 for the relief of paupers, while for orphans, lepers, the blind and the deaf there were only eight institutions. The total number of persons aided during the year at all charitable institutions was 14,578,911 or 2,158,231 more than in the previous year. The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana including an opening balance of Rs. 694-5-3 amounted to Rs. 6,274-5-3 as against Rs. 5,609-1-7 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the

Triplicane Langarkhana

institution was 179 against 170. The average daily number of inmates in the Monegar Choultry was 64·46 against 55·67 in the previous year and the average daily cost of diet per pauper was As. 3–9 against As. 4–3 last year. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 11,595 and the total expenditure to Rs. 10,809 against Rs. 11,663 and Rs. 10,601, respectively, in 1921–22. The balance to the credit of the Choultry on the 31st March 1923 was Rs. 5,431 against Rs. 4,646 last year. The average daily number of out-door paupers in the Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry was 106·83 against 97·92 in the previous year, the average daily cost per pauper being As. 1–2 against As. 1–4. Rs. 4,171 were received during the year as compared with Rs. 4,027 in 1921-22 and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 3,053 against Rs. 2,955 last year. The balance to the credit of the Choultry on the 31st March 1923 was Rs. 2,500 against Rs. 1,382 in the previous year.

Monegar Choultry

The Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry

MUHAMMADANS IN THE SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT (1922-23)

297. The number of Muhammadans in the superior service of Government on the 1st April 1923 was 8,822, or 70 more than in the previous year. Thirty-three persons held posts carrying an annual salary of over Rs. 5,000, 54 were in receipt of annual salaries ranging from Rs. 2,501 to Rs. 5,000, 261 from Rs. 1,001 to Rs. 2,500, 395 from Rs. 501 to Rs. 1,000, 1,409 from Rs. 251 to Rs. 500, and 6,670 from Rs. 121 to Rs. 250. The number of Muhammadans employed in the Police department was 6,869, in Courts of Law 469, in the Forest department 282, in the Education department 235, in the General Administration 250, in the Registration department 164, in the Land Revenue department 135, and in the Salt department 147; all other departments employed less than a hundred each. The percentage of Muhammadans to the total population of the Presidency (according to the Census of 1921) was 6·69, and 13 per cent of the posts in the superior service were held by them.

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REPORT

ON

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR

1923-24

MADRAS
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PREFATORY NOTE

IN compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the "General Summary"—deals with the calendar year 1924 and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1923-24 except where it is specifically stated otherwise.

PART I

GENERAL SUMMARY

1. *General.* The Right Hon'ble Sir Freeman Freeman-Thomas, Baron Willingdon of Ratton, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., resigned the office of Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George on the 12th April 1924. The Right Hon'ble the Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., arrived at Madras on the 14th April 1924 and took charge of the office of Governor on the forenoon of the same day. In the short interregnum between the date of Lord Willingdon's departure and Viscount Goschen's arrival the office of Governor devolved upon the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I.

On the 18th February an agreement was executed on behalf of the Government of Madras and the Mysore Darbar which finally settled the long-standing dispute relating to the utilization of the waters of the river Cauvery in Madras and Mysore respectively. This agreement was subsequently ratified by the Secretary of State and it was published in July.

Prior to the introduction of the Reforms there was one combined staff for the administration of the Salt and Excise (Abkāri) Department and the charges of this combined staff were shared between the Government of India and the Local Government. This arrangement was continued although under the Reforms "Excise" became a Provincial transferred subject and "Salt" a Central subject. With effect from 1st April 1924, however, two separate departments were constituted. Pending necessary legislation to be undertaken by the Government of India for the centralization of the Salt administration, the Salt Department continued to be under the control of the Local Government.

2. *Legislative Council.*—The Legislative Council session that commenced in the month of November 1923 was continued in February, March and April of the year under report. A second session was held in the months of August, October, November and December. Apart from the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor for the consideration of certain amendments suggested by him and which was finally passed by the Council after further consideration in its amended form, the main piece of legislation which occupied the attention of the Council was the Madras Irrigation Bill. The object of this Bill is to enable the State to control and regulate irrigation in the interests of the general community. The discussion on this Bill occupied a large portion of the time of the Council in the session that commenced in August and divisions were taken on numerous amendments. The Bill was passed by the Council in December. Other Bills passed by the Council during the year were the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill, the Madras Stage Carriages and Hackney Carriage Act Amendment Bill, the President's Salary Bill, a Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act and a Bill to amend the Madras Children Act. The Tuticorin

Port Trust Bill was designed to make provision for the regulation of conservancy and for the improvement of the port of Tuticorin and for the constitution of a Board of Trustees to administer the port. A clause of the Bill disqualifies from membership of such board any person who, not being an Indian by birth, is domiciled in any British possession or colony the laws of which do not confer or recognize rights and privileges in respect of resident Indians which are equal to those conferred or recognized in respect of other residents.

In the March meeting of the Council Government introduced a Bill for the settlement of land revenue in the Presidency with a view to bringing the process of assessment in future re-settlements under regulation by statute. The Council, though practically unanimous in wishing for legislation on this subject, did not accept the Bill, a large majority opposing it either on the grounds that it did not give power to the Legislative Council to fix the rates of re-settlement or on the grounds that they favoured a permanent settlement. The following Government Bills passed their first reading and were referred to Select Committees :—

(1) The Madras Pilferage Prevention Bill, intended to put a stop to danger to the public in general and to the trading community in particular resulting from thefts of unidentifiable merchandise in ports, railways, workshops and other places.

(2) A Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards Amendment Act, 1921.

(3) A Bill to amend the Madras Town Planning Act.

(4) The Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Bill which provides for the levy of a tax on entertainments and amusements for the benefit of the local authorities.

(5) The Madras Civil Courts Amendment Bill. The main object of the Bill is to enable the appointment of more than one judge to a court of a subordinate judge or a district munsif and thereby to avoid the difficulties arising from the creation and abolition of temporary courts.

Three non-official Bills were also introduced and referred to Select Committees. The first of these was the Malabar Tenancy Bill, the object of which is to confer, subject to certain conditions, occupancy rights on kanom tenants and actual cultivators of the soil; the second was a Bill to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919, and to do away with the intervention of the Standing Committee in regulating the private service of water to buildings with a comparatively low annual value. The third was the Madras Local Boards Act Amendment Bill intended to enable District Boards to utilize sums accumulated from the proceeds of railway cess for other purposes provided they obtained the previous sanction of Government. The Council also gave leave to introduce two other non-official Bills.

The budget was introduced on the 4th of March and the general budget debate and the voting on the various demands occupied practically the whole time of the Council during March. A large number of motions for the reduction of demands were tabled but in the time allotted the Council discussed only about half the demands. The only reductions voted were as follows :—

(1) The deletion of the provision for the establishment of the Board of Revenue as a protest against the continuance of that body. This provision was subsequently restored on the certificate of His Excellency the Governor.

(2) A reduction of Rs. 100 in the grant for criminal justice, a token motion signifying the Council's desire for a separation of judicial and executive functions.

(3) A reduction of one lakh in the jails budget on the question of releasing Mappilla prisoners.

(4) A reduction of Rs. 1,000 under Stamps to signify the Council's desire for a reversion to the old rates of court fees and stamp duties.

(5) A reduction of Rs. 100 under General Administration—Legislative Bodies, to press the motion for the provision of library facilities and other conveniences to members of the Legislative Council.

The number of resolutions admitted during the year was 645, of which only 19 were discussed. Among the more important resolutions passed by the Council were a resolution in favour of Provincial Autonomy and a resolution conveying the opinion of the Council that the recommendations of the Lee Commission should not be adopted in this province. The criticism of these recommendations was directed rather against the insufficiency of the Indianization proposals than against the concessions proposed to officials.

The number of questions of which notices were received in the year was nearly two thousand six hundred and there was also a marked increase in the number of supplementary questions. The volume of questions indeed became so great as to lead all parties in the house to agree to a system of starred questions being introduced in the Council.

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai, C.I.E., I.S.O., was appointed President of the Council in succession to Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar and took his seat in the presidential chair for the first time on the 5th February.

3. *Political.*—On the termination of the All-India Congress which was held at Cocanada in the closing days of 1923 some of the Khilafatist leaders and other agitators from the north of India, including Shaukat Ali and Dr. Kitchlew, made tours of various lengths in the Presidency. Shaukat Ali's speeches were generally objectionable in tone but did not, on the whole, excite much interest. The Khaddar Board also made a lengthy tour of the Presidency. Attempts to celebrate a "Gandhi month" from February 18th fell remarkably flat and the centre of popular interest changed to the doings of the Swarajist party. In addition to the part played by their representatives as a section of the opposition in the Legislative Council, the Swarajist party turned their attention to the capturing of local bodies and gained some seats in the elections at Madras; they also gained seats at Bezwada and Madura.

Early in the year a movement was started among the mirasdars of the Tanjore district to resist the introduction of the new rates of settlement or to press for their reduction. The Government after receiving a deputation from the ryots and considering their requests decided not to reduce the re-settlement rates. The Congress party

attempted to seize this opportunity to induce the ryots to come over to them *en bloc*, but at a conference of the mirasdars at Mannārgudi in May, a proposal to adopt mass civil disobedience failed after heated arguments and a similar fate befell the proposal to merge the Mirasdars' (Ryots' Association in the District Congress Committee. A Bill had already been introduced in March which contained provisions for limiting the enhancement of rates at all future re-settlements to $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Though this Bill was rejected by the Legislative Council, Government decided to lay down the rule that in future re-settlements, where the enhancement is based on the rise of prices only, the enhanced rate should not exceed $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of the rates immediately preceding. They also decided as a special case to give retrospective effect to this limit in respect of the re-settlement of Tanjore, Bellary and Anantapur (black soils).

In April a "*Satyagraha*" campaign was started at Vaikom in Travancore as a protest against the prohibition against the use of certain roads by particular castes, which attracted agitators from this Presidency and from other parts of India and occupied a good deal of space in the daily press.

There was a certain amount of tension in the relations between the railway companies and their employees during the year. Strikes of the employees of the South Indian Railway occurred in several districts at the end of May. As the Agent of the railway promised to remedy most of the men's grievances, the strikes soon came to an end except in Pōdanūr and Salem where, fanned by local agitators, the strikes lasted till the 16th and 22nd June, respectively. There was also some unrest among the employees of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway at Perambūr near Madras.

The action of Government in releasing nearly 600 Mappillas whose part in the recent Mappilla rebellion was small and whose previous behaviour was shown by police records to be good was received with gratitude especially by the people of Malabar as evidence of the Government's desire to carry out a policy of clemency in so far as it is compatible with maintaining tranquillity in the district. Government further decided to drop the further collection of fines under the Suspended Sentences Scheme whereby the sentences imposed on certain Mappillas were held under suspension, provided they continued to pay by monthly instalments the fines imposed upon them ; 477 Mappillas who were in prison for failure to pay these fines were also released.

The year saw the end of the rebellion in the Agency tracts which started in August 1922. The police forces engaged in these operations were reinforced in January by a strong detachment of the Assam Rifles, which was employed in systematically searching the country above the ghats, while the police forces continued to operate in the country below. The chief obstacle encountered by the Government forces was the active and passive sympathy shown to the rebels by many of the inhabitants of the area, including many muttadars and village officers. Government accordingly decided in March to appoint Mr. Rutherford, of the Indian Civil Service, as Special Commissioner in charge of the operations with authority over all military and civil officers in the rebellion area. The

measures taken by Mr. Rutherford had some effect on the attitude of the local inhabitants but it was found that still more troops were needed to search effectively the large and difficult extent of country in which the rebel leader and his bands were hiding. Accordingly the Government of Madras accepted the offer of the Government of Assam to send another detachment of the Assam Rifles, 200 strong, and on their arrival an effort was made to clear up the situation before the arrival of the monsoon. The country both above and below the ghats was therefore methodically searched by both the troops and the police. In the course of these operations a band of the rebels was brought into action and defeated on the 6th May and on the next day Srirama Razu himself was captured. He was brought in to the Officer Commanding the detachment of Assam Rifles but was shot shortly after while making an attempt to escape. After his death more active assistance was given by the villagers to the Government forces and, before the Assam Rifles left in June, numerous rebels were killed or captured. The other rebels, including one of the Razu's chief lieutenants, Gantam Dora, were gradually accounted for by the police; others absconded and by the end of September there was only one rebel of any importance still at large. The Government therefore decided to reduce the strength of the East Coast Special Police, who were retained in the Agency, to 240, all ranks, and to withdraw the whole force with the exception of one or two small posts from the rebellion area.

4. *Economic.*—The unfavourable nature of the season in a number of districts at the beginning of the year gave rise to considerable anxiety, and regular relief measures had to be taken in the Bellary and Anantapur districts and in the Chokapadu khandam of the Ganjām district. In the Coimbatore district the grant of concession rates for the importation of fodder proved sufficient to meet the situation. The south-west monsoon set in early in June and in the second half of July exceptionally heavy rains were received by the Western Ghats which resulted in unprecedented floods. The regions which suffered most were the districts of Malabar, Trichinopoly and Tanjore, while the districts of South Kanara, the Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Salem and South Arcot were less seriously affected. Besides the extensive damage to standing crops, houses, roads, bridges and railways, a large area of cultivable land was covered with sand and silt, especially in the Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts. A large breach was made by the floods in the left bank of the Cauvery about a mile above the Grand Anicut, through which the waters of the Cauvery poured into the Coleroon, leaving the great Tanjore delta unirrigated. Efforts were made to close this breach but these were not successful until the end of the year. The south-west monsoon partially atoned for these disasters by providing good rains in August and September in the districts where famine operations were being conducted and all famine works were closed by the end of October. The north-east monsoon also gave timely assistance. Not only did the areas which usually depend on it receive sufficient rain but enough was received in the Tanjore district to avert a total loss of the rice crop. In spite of these mitigations the economic condition of the Presidency was seriously affected, the disastrous floods which occurred in

so many districts occasioning a considerable loss of wealth both to Government and to private individuals. The price of rice was higher than in the previous year. The prices of dry grains too were generally higher but in Vizagapatam and parts of the Deccan they fell below the previous year's level after August.

5. *Civil and Criminal Justice.*—The alteration of the rules of the High Court, effected at the end of 1923, by which the classes of cases that should be tried by a single judge were increased and by which certain judicial or quasi-judicial work was delegated to the Registrar, led to increased disposal of civil suits. The pendency, however, in the High Court, especially in first appeals, second appeals and on the original side, was such that in October the temporary appointment of two additional judges was sanctioned. This increase in the strength of the bench will also enable the High Court to inspect District Courts and such other courts in the mufassal as may require inspection.

In civil courts in the mufassal there was a general increase in the institution of original suits. There was an increase in the number of small cause suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' Courts, whilst there was a further decline in the institution of small cause suits in District Munsifs' Courts attributable to the institution of Panchayat Courts. The position in the superior courts was not satisfactory as the pendency of original suits in District and Subordinate Judges' Courts was equal to about a year and a half's institutions and the position was reviewed by a judicial officer put on special duty for the purpose. In order to lighten the burden of miscellaneous work which falls so heavily on District Courts and in order that these courts may have more time to devote to the trial of original suits, extended jurisdiction in such matters was given to the lower courts.

In the sphere of criminal justice the sessions file of the High Court continued to be light. The appellate file tended to return to the normal of the years previous to the Mappilla Rebellion. There was a considerable decrease in the number of criminal appeals, but though there was a fall in the number of referred trials it still remained high owing to the prevalence of grave crime in parts of the Presidency other than South Malabar. The file of Sessions Courts for the Presidency as a whole showed a slight decrease. The Government of India during the year relaxed the restriction on the number of Subordinate Judges that might be invested with the powers of Assistant Sessions Judges. The number of Subordinate Judges exercising these powers was therefore increased with a view to relieving District Judges of some of their less important work and to training Subordinate Judges in criminal work. Coimbatore as usual had the heaviest sessions file and the number of cases in that district showed a marked and unaccountable increase. There was no marked variation for the Presidency as a whole in the number of cases in Magistrates' Courts but the increase of crime in certain districts was probably attributable to unfavourable economic conditions. During the year, Military Cantonment Magistrates ceased to exist and their functions were transferred to the regular Magistracy and Bench Courts. A number of Panchayat and Bench Courts were created during the year and on the whole these courts worked satisfactorily.

6. *Police.*—The abolition of the post of one Deputy Inspector-General and other measures of retrenchment were effected during the year. The numbers of the Police force fell to nearly 1,450 below strength and recruitment was revived in many districts. The discipline of the force was good except in Kumbakōnam where the placing of a constable in custody for disorderly conduct led to a partial strike of the constables of the station. Some of the men were dismissed and others were prosecuted and convicted under the Police Act. The King's Police Medal was awarded to five officers of the Imperial Police Service, one sergeant and one constable for distinguished service in the Agency operations and elsewhere, and the bar to the medal was awarded to an officer of the Imperial Service. A head constable also received the medal for the courage he displayed in an incident arising in the ordinary course of police duty. An Assistant Commissioner of Police and four Inspectors received titles.

Owing to the economic stress due to abnormal climatic conditions there was an increase of about ten per cent in the number of crimes against property in a majority of districts, but the situation improved with the more favourable agricultural outlook at the end of the year. There was a slight improvement in detection and organized crime was well controlled. A special party was at work in the Ceded Districts making inquiries into the manufacture and use of bombs which have come into favour in recent years in that region as weapons for the settlement of private feuds. A notorious outlaw, Arumuga Padayachi, who had committed numerous murders and dacoities, was shot dead on the 21st September and his gang was broken up. The organized activities of the dacoit gangs of Vetti Periya Karuppa Tevan and Hari Krishna Tevan in the Tinnevelly district were brought to a close by the death of the latter and the capture and conviction of the former. In October a cowardly attempt was made to murder Mr. S. A. Venkataraman, a junior member of the Indian Civil Service, in his sleep.

The conduct by the City Police officials of the investigation and prosecution in a sensational case in which certain persons were accused of defrauding the Imperial Bank of large sums was a topic of extended comment in the press and the subject of many questions in the Legislative Council. Government, however, while expressing their disapproval of certain indiscretions on the part of particular officers, found no justification for any general aspersions on the conduct of the City Police.

Further progress was made in the work of reclaiming the Kallars. The number of schools and co-operative societies for members of this community increased and there was an appreciable increase in the demand for the products made in the industrial centres.

7. *Jails.*—The average daily population of the jails declined during the year. There was also a decline in the number of prison offences but the number of corporal punishments, inflicted only for assaults and offences involving gross moral turpitude, was as high as fourteen. As many as 150 long-term prisoners who had completed two-thirds of their sentence and were not habitual criminals were released on the recommendation of the Advisory Board constituted in 1923. The remission system was extended also to prisoners sentenced to imprisonment for terms

of six months and over. Elementary education was imparted as usual to all convicts below 30 years of age and moral instruction was given by honorary lecturers. The new "Star" classification for non-habitual prisoners gave promise of good results and the facilities for recreation after lock-up allowed to well-behaved prisoners in association wards were much appreciated. A weekly newspaper for the use of convicts was started early in the year.

The designation of the Borstal Institution, Tanjore, was changed to that of "Borstal School." Fourteen boys of this school were released on licence for service under private employees on probation. There was also a large number of adolescents confined in Palamcottah Jail under a modified Borstal régime. The work of the Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society expanded considerably and non-official provincial jail visitors did much propaganda work in stimulating the activity of branch societies. Arrangements were also made for the representation of the society on the Boards of Visitors to the various jails.

The health of prisoners was even better than in 1923 and the jails were free from epidemic diseases. All prisoners admitted to jails were treated for hookworm if they were found to be suffering from this parasite.

Large orders were received by the jails for drill for police uniforms and boot machinery was installed at the Central Jail, Vellore, for the supply of boots to the Police Department. An Industrial Conference was also held to reorganize jail industries to meet the requirements of the public consuming departments.

8. *Trade and Ports.*—There was a further increase in the aggregate sea-borne trade of the Presidency during the year which if not commensurate with the large expansion of the previous year was nevertheless substantial. To this increase foreign and coasting trade both contributed. The volume of imports was comparatively small in the early part of the year owing to the unsettled political conditions prevailing in Europe but subsequent months showed a rapid improvement. The volume of export trade continued to expand under the stimulus of high prices in the consuming countries, which had been especially effective towards the close of 1923. There was a favourable movement in the balance of trade, the excess in the value of exports over imports being appreciably greater than in the previous year. There was a slight decline in the trade of the Presidency with the British Empire.

The port of Madras was favourably affected by the general improvement in trade and there was a substantial increase in the total tonnage handled. The net result of the year's working was a profit of Rs. 3·82 lakhs. Pipe lines for fuel oil were laid to four west quay berths so as to enable ships to fill their bunkers alongside. Satisfactory progress was made in the construction of a new deep water quay and a new breakwater outside the harbour. There was an increase in the average size of the vessels using the port.

The trade of the minor ports also showed an improvement over that of 1923. Preliminary work was carried out in connexion with the scheme for the creation of a deep water harbour at Tuticorin. Work at Cochin was confined to maintenance pending the receipt of the opinion of a

committee appointed by the Secretary of State on the Harbour Engineer's report on the work done up to 1923.

9. *Local Self-Government.*—The financial condition of local bodies was the subject of much consideration by Government. A committee was appointed for each district, consisting of the presidents of district and taluk boards, the Collector and the treasury officer. These committees examined the finances of the local boards in each district and framed normal budgets for each board. They found that district boards generally were able to maintain their services with the revenue assigned to them but that many of the taluk boards were unable to make both ends meet even after levying all taxes at maximum rates. To meet this situation Government proposed to abolish such of the boards as could not maintain their services. Further assistance was given to local bodies in strengthening their "ways and means" position by making monthly, instead of yearly, payments of Government subsidies on account of elementary and secondary education.

An interesting constitutional point was decided during the year. Under the Government of India Act, while Local Self-Government is a transferred subject, an exception is laid down in the case of the audit of Local Fund Accounts. On the question arising as to the proper authority to pass orders on the audit accounts and to deal with appeals against surcharges made by the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts it was decided that these matters should be dealt with by Government on the transferred side in the Ministry of Local Self-Government.

In pursuance of the policy to which reference was made in Part I of last year's administration report, five more district boards were permitted to elect their presidents. Panchayats formed under the Madras Village Panchayats Act, 1920, were working in all districts except three and nearly five hundred were in existence at the end of the year.

The cadre of District Board Engineers was formed into a provincial service with three grades under the control of the Ministry of Local Self-Government.

10. *Co-operation.*—The progress made by the Co-operative Department both in the formation of new co-operative societies and in the development of those registered in previous years was very satisfactory. There was a large increase in the number of members and in the amount of share capital, of working capital and of reserve funds. The steadily increasing efficiency of many of the local supervising unions gave evidence of the success of the policy adopted by the Government of transferring, within statutory limitations, the control of primary societies to non-official organizations, whenever such a course is practicable. The division of the subordinate staff of the Co-operative Department referred to in last year's administration report resulted in a distinct improvement in the quality of the audit of societies' accounts. Interesting features of the co-operative movement during the year were the increased activity of building societies stimulated by financial help from Government, the marked development in the organization of labour societies and the increase in the number of societies formed by ryots to enable them to hold up their crops for a favourable market and for the joint

sale of their produce. The labour societies were formed to provide work for their members and many of them were able to get contracts from local boards, municipalities and Government. Co-operation also made substantial progress among the depressed classes during the year.

11. *Labour.*—The labour situation during the year was calm except for the strike of the firemen and drivers of the South Indian Railway and of the employees at the Company's workshops at Podanūr. Of the other ten strikes which occurred, eight were among the employees of municipalities and of the Port Trust. Except in the railway strikes little difficulty was experienced in bringing about a settlement. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, came into force during the year and two cases under the Act were decided by the Commissioner of Labour. The Indian Emigration Act of 1922 and the rules framed under it, which were applied to emigration to Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States and the Unfederated Malay States, worked smoothly with the co-operation of the representatives of the Governments concerned. There was an increase in emigration attributable to the failure of the north-east monsoon at the end of 1923 in the recruiting areas and to the increased demand for labour from outside the Presidency.

A large number of coolies emigrated from the districts of Bellary, Cuddapah and Anantapur to work in the Assam tea gardens. Many of these returned after a short period and this fact led to demands both in the Press and the Legislative Council for the cessation of recruitment for this province. The Commissioner of Labour was deputed by Government to obtain first-hand information from the repatriates themselves as to the reasons for their return. He found that the main cause of the exodus was the fact that the sardars or recruiting agents sent by the planters had painted the conditions of work in Assam in too glowing colours and that the emigrants were disappointed in the extravagant hopes which they raised. The Commissioner, however, saw nothing to justify the Government in refusing to allow a coolie to go to Assam, if conditions are fairly explained to him, that would not apply to his going to any other part of India.

Work for the amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes was carried on in nine districts of the Presidency as in the previous year and a special officer was appointed in Madras City for the same purpose. By the end of the year over nine hundred schools and over eleven hundred co-operative societies for the benefit of the depressed classes were in existence. Special assistance was given to the members of these classes who suffered from the floods in the Tanjore district.

12. *Agriculture.*—Though the classes in the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, were smaller, for the reasons mentioned in Part I of last year's report, the results of the examination held during the year were satisfactory. It was decided, however, to abolish the certificate course at the end of the year. The Agricultural Middle Schools at Taliparamba and Anakapalle provided two-year courses in Agriculture for those who intend to return to their lands for farming. Research work on sugarcane, paddy, cotton, coconuts, fruit culture, potatoes and plantation crops was carried out as usual on the various agricultural farms and stations.

A first crop was also sown in a newly constructed millets-breeding station. A preliminary examination of the soils of the Presidency was conducted from which it was ascertained that as regards ammonia fixation these soils fall into two main types each needing different treatment. Various manurial experiments were also conducted and work in Entomological and Mycological research was continued. The Department of Agriculture was especially active in the field of demonstration. A campaign was organized against the *mahali* disease of the arecanut palm and in co-operation with the local co-operative societies some 800,000 trees were sprayed and effectually protected. A special feature was made of demonstration plots on the ryots' own lands. Some 600 plots were in existence during the year and the popularity of this method increased. Four special demonstration areas were also established with the object of demonstrating methods advocated by the department side by side with local methods, a careful profit and loss account being kept of each. A number of agricultural exhibitions were held during festivals and fairs. Other features of this branch of the department's work were the popularization of iron ploughs, green manures and the Sindewahe furnace for boiling jaggery. The new system, under which cotton seed farms buy only seed from the ryots who gin the lint co-operatively, enabled much larger purchases of seed to be made with the money available. The department published 14 new leaflets during the year in addition to a Year Book, a Villagers' Calendar and a regular monthly digest of the department's work. The year was, on the whole, not an unhealthy one for cattle. Considerable advance was made during the year in the breeding of live-stock. A buffalo-breeding station was opened at Guntūr and the Hosūr Remount Depôt near Bangalore was obtained for the purpose of a central cattle farm. Hosūr offers ideal conditions for the purpose and its acquisition will be of great value to the Department of Agriculture in its endeavours to improve the live-stock of the Presidency.

13. *Forests.*—The policy of abandoning such forest reserves as were not of sufficient value to justify the expenditure entailed by reservation and which could be utilized for agriculture was abandoned in favour of the policy of extending the panchayat system of management, the principle adopted being that no such land should be disforested unless there were no reasonable prospect of a panchayat being formed for its management. The spread of the panchayat movement under the guidance of a specially appointed staff rendered possible the abolition of two ranges and one forest division. The number of offences against conservancy regulations decreased and the extension of the system of early burning as a prophylactic against forest fires was attended with much success from the point of view of both protection and finance. Satisfactory progress was again made in the regeneration of the important timber forests, both deciduous and evergreen. The creation of a special Forest Engineering staff and the introduction of improvements in the working of logging machinery resulted in a reduction of the working costs and an increase in the output of timber from the Chenat Nair Exploitation division. To further the utilization of the timber extracted

from these forests Government decided with the approval of the Legislative Council to erect a saw mill and seasoning plant at Olavakkode and these were under construction at the end of the year. The Saw Mill at Russellkonda continued to work during the year ; there was a considerable increase in the intake of logs and, owing to more careful selection, the percentage of wastage in conversion decreased. A Forest Utilization Officer was appointed to deal exclusively with the commercial side of the Forest Department and the expansion of the relations between this department and the timber trade soon necessitated the appointment of a second officer to cope with the work of this branch.

14. *Fisheries.*—The recommendations made by the Retrenchment Committee to the effect that the Department of Fisheries should be abolished, that such of its activities as were unremunerative should be curtailed and that the remainder should be transferred to other departments were rejected by Government who considered that these proposals would not result in real economy and decided that the department should continue in its present shape. On the bifurcation of the Salt and Abkāri Department at the beginning of April, all the fish-curing yards in the Presidency were transferred to the control of the Department of Fisheries ; as a result of this, the department acquired a greatly increased staff and was brought into even closer touch with the fishing community and fishing industries. The fishing season of 1923-24 on the West Coast, where the principal Government establishments are situated, was a poor one and the output of canned and cured fish, fish oil and guano was considerably reduced. A substantial profit was, however, realized from the chank fisheries as in the previous year. The net profits on inland fisheries were also reduced owing to unfavourable seasonal conditions in certain districts but progress was made in the work of stocking inland waters with improved varieties of fresh-water fish. The Department of Fisheries continued its efforts to improve the socio-economic condition of the fishing community. The exhibits of the department displayed at the British Empire Exhibition resulted in the receipt of a number of inquiries for fish oil, guano and similar products.

15. *Industries.*—A considerable number of applications for assistance under the State Aid to Industries Act were received by the Board of Industries but many of them showed little or no appreciation of the requirements of the Act. The only application actually sanctioned by Government on the Board's recommendation during the year was for a loan of Rs. 50,000 to a firm of silk cloth manufacturers for the purpose of developing their factory. The Bureau of Commercial and Industrial Information dealt with an ever-increasing volume of inquiries and the services rendered by this bureau were much appreciated. As a preparatory step in the development of the lace and embroidery industry in the Presidency a Lady Assistant was appointed in October to carry out a comprehensive survey of the industry and to supply all the facts bearing upon the question that could be collected within a reasonably short period. The inquiry conducted by the Industrial Chemist into the conditions which govern the retting of coconut husk was completed and the scientific results of the investigations were published in the journal

of the Indian Institute of Science. Government decided that the manufacture of a high-class malted food from cholam, the practicability of which was demonstrated by the experiments conducted in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture, should be left for private enterprise to develop. There was an increased demand for the soaps manufactured by the Kerala Soap Institute at Calicut and a profit was earned. The installation of the glycerine plant in the institute was completed and it is now working on a commercial scale. The Industrial Institute, Madras, which is exclusively devoted to the manufacture of ink, was fully occupied with the orders it received and may be said to have established itself as a paying concern. The results of the operations of the Fruit Preserving Institute were not satisfactory and Government are considering whether the results obtained offer any prospect that the industry will become self-supporting in the near future. In view of the difficulty of manufacturing glue on a small scale at a competitive rate and of finding a market for the product, Government ordered the Government Glue Factory to be closed. Demonstrations by ten weaving parties, nine of which were peripatetic, were continued during the year. Power driven machinery for starting a pioneer warp preparation factory was erected in Madras. As a result of propaganda work for the introduction of sericulture, several tracts have been brought under mulberry cultivation, while in others the rearing of silk worms has been successfully initiated. An increased demand was made upon the boring machinery operated by the Department of Industries and steps were taken towards procuring more machinery of an improved type. The new buildings of the Madras Trades School were occupied during the year ; the efficiency of the school was well maintained and the type of instruction it provides continued to be appreciated by the industrial firms and apprentices of the city. The Madura Industrial Institute was reorganized and the School of Arts and the Leather Trade Institute continued their activities. Six new scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science and five new scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, were awarded during the year. The number of recognized industrial schools increased to fifty.

16. *Public Works.*—The revision of the administrative orders of Government relating to the Public Works Department account as contained in the Public Works Code and the Works Audit Manual was undertaken by an officer of the department specially appointed for the purpose in collaboration with an officer of the Accountant-General's department. The Special Officer was also instructed to make a rigorous scrutiny of all temporary establishments with a view to reducing such establishments to the absolute minimum necessary. His proposals for effecting this are under the consideration of Government.

Among the more important works completed or in progress during the year were the Leper Colony at Tirumani, formally opened by His Excellency Lord Willingdon and Lady Willingdon in March ; the hostel for the Madras University Students' Club, opened by His Excellency Lord Willingdon in March and named after him ; and a group of residences for clerks, declared open by Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., in April

and named after him as "Todhunter Nagar." Several main blocks of the King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam, were completed and occupied. The main building for the Madras Trades School was also completed. Other works on the verge of completion include the Rāyapuram Hospital and the new Medical School at Tanjore. There was a welcome activity in electrical matters during the year. The works erected under the Bellary Electrical Licence, 1921, were completed, those in connexion with the Cochin Electric Licence were in progress and licences for the supply of electrical energy to three other places were granted during the year. In response to Government's decision to afford professional assistance to local bodies desiring to undertake electric supply schemes, applications were received from five Municipal Councils.

As regards irrigation the chief event of the year was the conclusion of the agreement between the Government of Madras and the Mysore Darbar. This agreement defined the respective rights of Madras and Mysore to the waters of the Cauvery. It rendered possible the execution of the Cauvery project, including the construction of a reservoir at Metur, which will supply 301,000 acres of new irrigation and greatly improve the existing irrigation under the Cauvery river. The plans and estimates for this project were forwarded to the Government of India in March for the sanction of the Secretary of State. Pending the receipt of this sanction a special division of the Public Works Department was created in December to carry out certain preliminary works in this connexion.

17. *Financial.*—After a series of years of financial deficits, the year 1923–24 provided a surplus of 28 lakhs of rupees. The surplus was utilized for the purpose of paying off the greater portion of the accumulated deficits of previous years, the outstandings under which head have now been reduced to nine lakhs of rupees. The surplus was due both to the restriction of expenditure within the lowest possible limits and to the increase of 41 lakhs on the Revenue side of the account, largely under the heads Excise and Stamps. The curtailment of expenditure, in spite of adverse circumstances due to the fituri, famine and cyclones, was the result in the main of the policy of retrenchment that was pursued throughout the year. The Retrenchment Committee, which had been appointed in the latter half of the financial year 1922–23, completed its work in September 1923. It presented interim reports and recommendations throughout the year and the final report was presented early in December. As the result of the recommendations of the main and subsidiary retrenchment committees, action has been taken by Government which has resulted in an immediate saving of 18 lakhs of rupees and which will eventually, when the measures taken have attained full realization, secure a further saving of 18 lakhs.

The budget estimates for 1924–25 were presented to the Legislative Council on the 3rd of March 1924 and revealed a further surplus, after the repayment of the due instalment of the advances taken from the Government of India, of three and a half lakhs of rupees. The abnormal conditions of the year under report, which have combined famine with floods of unprecedented magnitude, render it unlikely, however, that the expected surplus will be realized.

18. *Excise.*—An experiment in the way of practical prohibition was started from the beginning of the financial year by the closure of all arrack shops in certain taluks of the Tanjore, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and Salem districts where toddy is the prevailing drink. Another experiment was also under trial in the Nilgiris with the object of preventing the hill tribes, especially the Badagas, from drinking. Under this experiment the sale of liquor to any member of a hill tribe except on a medical certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner has been prohibited. There was a fall in excise revenue during the year under all heads except "foreign liquor" and "opium." The fall in the revenue from "country spirits" was principally due to the closure of arrack shops in certain areas to which reference is made above. The increase under both "opium" and "foreign liquor" was slight.

19. *Public Health.*—The total number of births and deaths recorded from January to September exceeded those of the previous year. There was a smaller mortality from smallpox, fevers and plague but the rise in the number of deaths from cholera, diarrhœa and dysentery was abnormal when compared with the figures for the previous year. Respiratory affections also claimed a heavier toll of lives. A slight increase was also noticeable in the total infantile mortality. In spite of the efforts of the new Health staff directed to the improvement of the accuracy of the registration of vital statistics, registration cannot yet be said to be satisfactory and the recorded variations are subject to a large margin of error.

Relapsing fever still continued to be prevalent in the Nilgiris and an intensive campaign against it was begun under the superintendence of a District Health Officer specially deputed for the purpose. This disease was also present in a rather mild form in the districts of Anantapur and South Arcot and a few isolated cases were reported from other places.

The first National Health Week was held in the Presidency from 14th to the 19th January and was attended with considerable success in most parts of the Presidency. The holding of this Week was timed to coincide with the Pongal festival when there is a general spring-cleaning in Hindu households. Health propaganda was carried on in various ways with the object of creating a public "sanitary conscience." Owing to the praiseworthy labours of the Madras Health Council and the efforts of the District Health staff health propaganda received considerable attention. The celebration of a "Baby Week" simultaneously with that of a Health Week was attended with equal success. In spite of the widespread superstition of the "Evil Eye" baby shows were held in as many as 150 centres and nearly 10,000 babies were exhibited. Full advantage was taken of the presence of the mothers at these shows to impart elementary instruction to them regarding maternity and child welfare.

The appointments of municipal health officers were also included in the provincial cadre of health officers during the year.

20. *Medical.*—As the method of bringing medical relief within easy reach of the rural population by means of itinerating dispensaries did not prove successful, Government decided to try the method of spreading medical relief in rural areas by offering subsidies to private medical

practitioners to induce them to open dispensaries in villages. This scheme, if effect is given to it by local boards, will also, to a certain extent, solve the problem of reducing unemployment among qualified medical practitioners. This unemployment was aggravated by the fact that owing to the reduction in the cadre the actual strength of the sub-assistant surgeons' cadre was in excess of the sanctioned strength and therefore civil medical pupils in medical colleges were not provided with appointments on passing out.

The opening of two new dispensaries was sanctioned. Six medical institutions were closed and in some places Ayurvedic dispensaries were opened in their stead. The campaign against hookworm infection (Ankylostomiasis) was continued in the City of Madras, Coimbatore district (including the Anamalai plantations) and three other districts. On the recommendation of the Medical and Public Health Retrenchment Committee a Special Officer was appointed by Government to inquire into, and report on, the working of the Presidency State Hospitals and certain selected mufassal headquarter hospitals. As a result of this inquiry Government effected certain measures of retrenchment in hospital establishments, and in the matter of diet certain limits in the average cost of a patient's diet per diem were fixed in order to prevent waste and extravagance.

The post-graduate courses which had been introduced to enable civil assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons to keep themselves abreast of advances in medical science were abolished. Two efficiency bars were, however, introduced in the scale of pay of civil assistant surgeons and sub-assistant surgeons and, to enable them to keep their professional knowledge up to date, they will be allowed to avail themselves of the benefit of the study leave rules as far as possible.

A school of Indian Medicine was established in Madras by the Government and formally opened by His Excellency the Governor. It consists of three sections—the Ayurvedic, the Unani and the Siddha—and the course of instruction will extend over three years. The training given in the respective Indian systems is supplemented by a course of instruction in Anatomy and Physiology according to the Allopathic system.

21. *Education.*—The University of Madras entered a new phase of its history during the year when the controlling authorities established by the Madras University Act of 1923 began to function. There has been no indication so far of any change in the general policy of the Madras University with regard to the further affiliation and recognition of colleges in the mufassal.

At the end of 1923-24, a small but satisfactory increase in both the number of public and private educational institutions was recorded. With a view to the systematic expansion of elementary education in the Presidency, a detailed survey of the educational requirements of villages in rural areas was undertaken and, as a step towards helping local bodies which had levied the education cess and were still unable to open schools in school-less villages, Government sanctioned a subsidy of Rs. 1,61,504 to enable these bodies to open schools in 839 villages which had a population of 1,000 and over. During 1923-24, a large expansion in the number

of Muhammadan educational institutions took place especially among those intended for Mappillas. With a view to the further improvement of Mappilla education, the Government Lower Elementary Training School at Malappuram was raised to the status of a Higher Elementary Training School. Compulsory elementary education was introduced in two municipalities during the year. A new Text-Book Committee was constituted containing representatives of the District Secondary Education Boards. The Adviser to Government on Physical Education was given an assistant with a view to enlarging the scope of his activities.

22. *British Empire Exhibition.*—The Madras Court in the Indian Pavilion at the British Empire Exhibition covered a space of 11,000 square feet but owing to the heavy demand for space from private exhibitors, the space allotted for the exhibits of the various Government departments had to be reduced from 3,500 square feet to 950 square feet. The various activities of the several Government departments in the Madras Presidency were adequately represented, while Madras forests contributed some of the finest timber utilized in the All-India exhibit. The exhibits in the Madras Court as a whole comprised a wide range of articles and commodities including various raw materials, food products, textiles, lace and embroidery work, leather articles, ores and minerals, essential oils and perfumes, drugs and medicines as well as articles representative of South Indian arts and crafts.

PART II

THE REPORT

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

5. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1923-24)

9. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lord (now Viscount) Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., held office as Governor throughout the year. The Hon'ble Mr. (now Sir Arthur) Knapp, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., I.C.S., took six months' leave from the 1st May 1923 and the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, C.S.I., I.C.S., was appointed as a Temporary Member in his place. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, K.C.I.E., having been appointed, from the 1st November 1923, a Member of the Royal Commission on the Superior Civil Services in India, Raja V. Vasudeva Raja Avargal, Valiya Nambidi of Kollengode, C.I.E., was appointed to be a Temporary Member of Council to fill the vacancy. The Hon'ble Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah resumed charge of his office on the afternoon of the 31st March 1924. Upon the dissolution of the first Legislative Council with effect from the 11th September 1923, the Ministry having resigned office, the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal and the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur (now Sir) A. P. Patro, *Kt.*, were re-appointed by His Excellency the Governor with effect from the forenoon of the 19th November 1923. The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur T. N. Sivagnanam Pillai Avargal was appointed from the same date in succession to the Hon'ble Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu Garu, *Kt.*

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOURS

10. On the 8th August 1923 His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Lord Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., Governor of Madras, visited Bellary to open the Industrial Exhibition, and on the 8th September opened the Toludur Project Irrigation Works in the South Arcot district. From the 2nd to the 5th October His Excellency visited Cochin and Travancore and arrived in Madras on the 7th October. On their way up to Ootacamund His Excellency the Governor and Lady Willingdon halted at Vellore on the 19th December to open the new wing of the Women's Medical College, and then visited the Anamalais from the 20th to the 23rd December. His Excellency returned to Madras on the 31st December after staying in Ootacamund for a week. On the 29th January 1924 His Excellency the Governor and Lady Willingdon visited Pithāpuram, where His Excellency presented to the Raja the sanad conferring the title of "Maharaja." Opportunity was taken of the visit to lay the foundation stones of the Town Hall and the Ladies' Club. His Excellency also received an address from the Pithāpuram Taluk Board and inspected the Mission Hospital at Pithāpuram and the Orphanage at Cocanada. His Excellency returned to Madras on the 31st January. On the 3rd February 1924 His Excellency the Governor and Lady Willingdon visited the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Madanapalle.

RELATIONS WITH TRIBUTARY STATES*

TRAVANCORE STATE

(M.E. 1098—1922-23 A.D.

[*Report on the administration of the Travancore State for the year M.E. 1098—1922-23 A.D.*]

[The Maharaja, His Highness Sri Padmanabha Dasa Vanchi Pala Col. Sir Rama Varma Kulasekhara Kiritapati Manne Sultan Maharaja Raja Rama Raja Bahadur Shamsher Jang, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., was born on the 25th September 1857 and has been Maharaja since the 19th August 1885. There is an heir-apparent. The area of the State is 7,625 square miles and the population in 1921 was 4,006,062]

General

11. In response to the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin, His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore visited Cochin in February and March 1923. In July 1923 His Majesty the King-Emperor was graciously pleased to appoint His Highness the Maharaja Honorary Colonel of the 10th Battalion, 3rd Madras Regiment.

Revenue and finance

12. The total revenue realized during the year was Rs. 1,95,87,147 and the ordinary expenditure was Rs. 1,88,26,714, resulting in a surplus of Rs. 7,60,433. The assets of the State at the end of the year exceeded its liabilities by Rs. 70,84,834, exclusive of certain capital liabilities on account of the Railway and the Kodayar Irrigation Project. The rise in the gross revenue was chiefly attributable to increased receipts from Land Revenue, Income-tax, Salt-tax, Stamps, Interest, Education and Railways. There was a decrease in the revenue derived from Forests and Excise, while a fall in the receipts from Land Customs was partially balanced by a rise in those from Sea Customs. The decrease of Rs. 3,34,917 in expenditure was mainly due to a reduction in the number of taluks, to a fall in the expenditure on the extraction of timber from forests consequent upon the small demand for timber and to retrenchment in the Police Department. There was, however, an increase in the expenditure on Education and Medical Relief.

Protection and legislation

13. Three meetings of the Legislative Council, lasting in all for 26 days, were held during the year ; two regulations were passed, five bills were referred to Select Committees and six were discussed. A Standing Finance Committee was constituted to examine the draft annual budget, while seven special committees were also appointed.

Police

The sanctioned strength of the police force was 1,938 (or 4 less than in the previous year) while the actual strength on the last day of the year was 1,908. The number of cognizable cases which required police investigation was 3,139 as against 2,937 in M.E. 1097. The total number of grave crimes reported was 1,564 as against 1,570 in the previous year, a decline in cases of culpable homicide, dacoity and robbery being partly set off by an increase in the number of thefts.

Jails

The average daily strength of convicted prisoners was 435 as against 413 in the previous year. At the close of the year there were 481 prisoners in confinement as against 474 at the close of M.E. 1097. The number of prisoners confined in the lock-ups was 4,364 as against 3,754 in the preceding year.

Criminal justice

A further step was taken in the direction of the separation of judicial and executive functions by relieving most of the Tahsildars of the work of trying criminal cases and by increasing the number of Stationary Sub-Magistrates. Four first-class Benches and four second-class Benches composed of non-official gentlemen were also established. The total number of courts exercising criminal jurisdiction was, however, reduced from 79 to 62. There was an increase in the number of offences reported but a decline in the number of cases under the Penal Code. The number of juvenile accused fell from 717 to 197, while the number actually brought to trial and the number convicted

* The five Indian States in the Madras Presidency having been brought into direct political relations with the Government of India on the 1st October 1923, the paragraphs under this heading will be omitted from future Presidency Administration Reports. The submission of the administration report of the Sāndūr State has been discontinued and no information is therefore available.

rose from 43 and 8 to 82 and 13, respectively. There was an increase in the file of the magistracy and in the number of cases pending at the end of the year, but each magistrate disposed of 455 cases as against 356 in the previous year. The number of persons tried in the Sessions Courts fell from 413 to 390. There was a substantial drop in the number of appeals both in the Sessions and in the High Court. The year was

Civil justice

marked by an increase in the volume of original civil suits throughout the State. The increase was chiefly due to institutions in the Munsifs' Courts and to some extent to cases instituted in the Village Panchayat Courts. Taking the institutions as a whole, litigation increased by 6,501 suits or 9·19 per cent. There was an increase in the number of appeals in the District Courts and in the number of cases pending at the end of the year.

Registration

The total number of documents presented for registration increased from 284,316 in M.E. 1097 to 291,517 and the aggregate value of transactions rose from Rs. 9,49,75,179 to Rs. 10,57,22,577.

Production and distribution

14. The season was on the whole favourable to agriculture. The wages of labour remained steady but prices of food grains went down a little. The average rainfall was 110·06 inches, or 17·62 inches more than the

Agriculture

fall in the preceding year. Research work in Agricultural Chemistry and Entomology was continued. Energetic measures were adopted for the suppression of the coconut-leaf roller disease. Progress was also made in experimental work on the cultivation of the staple crops. The number

Veterinary

of veterinary institutions remained the same as in the previous year. Foot and mouth disease was prevalent in six taluks and there were a few cases of other infectious diseases. Prompt measures were taken to

Co-operative societies

combat these outbreaks. One hundred and fifty-one new co-operative societies were registered during the year. The total number of societies at the end of the year was 518 of which 444 were actually working. There was a slight reduction in the amount of arrears of both capital and interest but the progress made was not very satisfactory. There were

Factories

157 factories in existence at the end of M.E. 1098 as against 146 in M.E. 1097. The largest class of factories were those for the manufacture of black tea. The total number of operatives employed was 25,861 and the average daily wages ranged from 2 annas to Rs. 2–12–0. The value of external trade

Trade

was Rs. 13,33,36,756 as against Rs. 12,34,65,157 in M.E. 1097. Exports accounted for 62 per cent of the total trade as against 60 per cent in the previous year, the value of imports decreasing proportionately. One

Marine

hundred and ninety-two steamers called at the ports as compared with 129 in the previous year. This increase is attributed to the increase in shipping and landing dues at the Port of Cochin.

Public health

15. The birth-rate and the death-rate declined from 17·58 and 11·46 per mille in M.E. 1097 to 17·21 and 11·34, respectively. The number of deaths from smallpox was 320 and there was only one case of cholera and one case of plague during the year. The total number of vaccinations performed was 263,944 as against 233,727 in the previous year. Twenty-

Hospitals

nine hospitals and 31 dispensaries were maintained, the number of in-patients being 20,834 as against 19,947 in M.E. 1097 and that of out-patients 970,388 as against 960,291.

Education

16. The total number of recognized institutions in the State rose from 3,197 to 3,294 and their strength from 402,181 to 427,143. The system of according partial recognition to schools was abolished. There were 783 private unrecognized schools with a strength of 25,768.

COCHIN STATE

(M.E. 1098—17TH AUGUST 1922 TO 16TH AUGUST 1923)

[*Report on the administration of the Cochin State for the year M.E. 1098*]

[His Highness Maharaja Sri Sir Rama Varma, G.C.I.E., was born on the 6th October 1858 and became Maharaja on the abdication of his uncle on the 7th December 1914. The heir-apparent, Rama Varma, was born on the 30th December 1861. The State has an area of 1,417¾ square miles and a population of 979,080. It pays an annual subsidy of Rs. 2,00,000]

General

17. His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore visited the State in February and March 1923. Prominent among the other guests of His Highness during the year were the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, I.C.S., Madras, the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal, the Hon'ble Sir Venkata Reddi Nayudu Garu and the Hon'ble Raja Vasudeva Raja of Kollengode. Two darbars were held by the British Resident during the year for the purpose of conveying the grant by His Majesty the King-Emperor of the dignity of "Companion of the Imperial Service Order" to the Diwan M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur P. Narayana Menon Avargal, the sanad of the title of Rao Sahib to Mr. P. K. Varughese and the sanad of the title of Rao Bahadur to the Chief Judge of the Chief Court, Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.

Revenue and finance

18. The total revenue realized during the year was Rs. 74,60,952 and the total expenditure incurred was Rs. 74,76,101, entailing a net deficit of Rs. 15,149. In M.E. 1097 the revenue amounted to Rs. 55,46,463 and the expenditure to Rs. 55,28,759. There was a large increase in the revenue derived from the railway during the year, and all other sources of revenue, except land revenue and stamps, provided larger contributions to the exchequer than in the previous year. The excess in the expenditure over that of the previous year was mainly due to greatly increased outgoings for the railway and for public works. The cash balance to the credit of the State at the end of the year was Rs. 34,18,670, of which Rs. 18,39,898 was in actual cash and Rs. 15,78,772 in securities or loans.

Protection and legislation

19. Nine regulations were passed during the year and ten rules were issued under the regulations in force. The police force consisted of 92 officers and 547 men and the ratio of effective police to the population was 1 to 1,602·3 persons as compared with 1 to 1,605·5 persons in the previous year. The total number of cases that required investigation by the police was 785 as against 745 in M.E. 1097. The number of grave crimes rose from 451 in M.E. 1097 to 463; the perpetrators were detected in 61·8 per cent of these cases as against 52 per cent in the previous year. There was no change in the number of Courts exercising jurisdiction in criminal cases. Of the 2,293 cases for disposal in Magistrates' Courts, sentence was pronounced in 2,185, leaving 108 pending as against 132 at the end of the previous year. In the Sessions Court thirty-eight out of forty-six cases were disposed of before the end of the year. There was an increase in the appellate work in all Courts except the Chief Court. The average daily population of the Central Jail was 146·40 as against 120·61 in the previous year. There was also a rise in the number of convicts classed as "habituals." The number of tribunals exercising civil jurisdiction remained the same as in the previous year. The number of suits instituted rose from 16,512 in M.E. 1097 to 16,991 and 860 appeals were lodged as against 855 in that year. The number of documents registered in registrars' offices rose from 52,943 in the previous year to 55,525 and nine new joint stock companies were registered as against eight in M.E. 1097.

Police

Crimina justice

Jails

Civil justice

Registration

Production and distribution

20. The total area under occupation and cultivation during the year was 504,205 acres as against 503,874 acres in M.E. 1097. The extent under kole cultivation, however, decreased from 16,596 to 15,761 acres. The aggregate demand under "Land Revenue" amounted to Rs. 12,05,206, of which a sum of Rs. 12,03,285 was collected, the percentage of collection to current demand being 99·9. There was a decrease

in the total expenditure under "Land Revenue," less being spent on leave allowances and the maintenance of survey records. Experimental

Agriculture work was continued in the Government Central Farm at Ollukara and works for improving the experimental coconut and paddy station in the Cochin Kanayannūr taluk were started. The endeavours of the Agricultural Department to popularize the use of spraying machines for combating the *mahali* disease of arecanut palms met with signal success.

Co-operative societies Seven societies were newly registered during the year and there were 104 societies in existence at the end of the year as against 98 in M.E. 1097. The total number of members rose from 12,175 to 13,327 and the total receipts from subscriptions from Rs. 1,25,501 to Rs. 1,43,949. Repayments

Forests continued to be fairly satisfactory. The extent of reserved forests remained the same, viz., 593 square miles. The result of the working of the Forest Department was a surplus of Rs. 2,16,211 as against Rs. 1,65,188

Railway in the preceding year. The South Indian Railway Company continued to work the State Railway. The accounts for M.E. 1097 were not received and brought to book until M.E. 1098. The net earnings for the two years came to Rs. 4,45,855 which gave a return of 5·93 per cent on the capital outlay.

Medical 21. Apart from an outbreak of smallpox in sporadic form which resulted in 630 deaths, public health was satisfactory during the year.

Vital statistics The registered birth-ra e per mille of the population fell from 14·60 in M.E. 1097 to 13·40 in M.E. 1098 and the death-rate rose from 9·42 to 10·18.

Medical relief There were thirty-six medical institutions in the State as against thirty-three in the previous year and the total number of patients treated

Vaccination was 351,674 as against 310,442. The number of vaccinations performed during the year was 53,974 as against 42,004 in M.E. 1097, a higher percentage of success being also obtained.

Education 22. The number of Government schools fell from 167 to 161, while the number of aided schools rose from 269 to 270. The number of pupils in Government schools was 40,162 and in aided schools 53,271, as against 39,085 and 48,313, respectively, in M.E. 1097. Of the 1,074 candidates who appeared for the School Final examination 328 were declared eligible for public service.

PUDUKKŌTTAI STATE

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Report on the administration of Pudukkōttai for fasli 1333*]

[The Raja, His Highness Sri Brihadamba Das Raja Sir Martanda Bhairava Tondaiman Bahadur, G.C.I.E., is a Kallar by caste and is 48 years of age. The population of the State, according to the census of 1921, is 426,813. The Raja pays no tribute and maintains a military force of 19 cavalry and 110 infantry]

General 23. During the absence of His Highness the Raja, who continued to reside in Europe with his family, the administration of the State was conducted by the Regent, assisted by the Diwan. The Representative Assembly and the Legislative Advisory Council were superseded in April 1924 by the creation of a single institution styled the Pudukkōttai Legislative Council, based on a wider franchise and possessing larger powers. Owing to the time required for the election of its members the new Council did not assemble before the close of the fasli.

Revenue and finance 24. The actual receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 21·35 lakhs, or Rs. 1·82 lakhs less than those of the preceding year. The chief cause of this difference was the absence of the extraordinary items of credit referred to in last year's administration report. Actually there was an increase in the revenue derived from all the ordinary sources of revenue. In the same manner a decrease of Rs. 22·15 lakhs in the expenditure of the State was mainly due to the inclusion in the expenditure for the previous

year of a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs which was transferred to His Highness the Raja. Apart from this, however, there was a decrease of Rs. 2·15 lakhs in the expenditure when compared with that of the previous year.

Production and distribution

25. The agricultural year was favourable for wet crops but dry crops suffered from want of rain in the earlier part of the year. There was an appreciable rise in the price of all food grains except rice. The condition of the cattle was good ; there were no epidemics and pasture and fodder were sufficient. Four agricultural instructors were employed during the year to demonstrate agricultural methods, three touring in the taluks and one being in charge of the Agricultural Farm at Pudukkōttai. Eighteen new co-operative societies were registered during the year, the total number working at the close of the year being 79. These included three weavers' societies, two consisting of silk weavers and the other of cotton weavers. The societies as a whole showed progress in all directions.

Public works

Expenditure under the head of public works fell from Rs. 5·03 lakhs in fasli 1332 to Rs. 3·96 lakhs. About 50 per cent of the amount expended under this head was applied to minor irrigation. Two new roads were constructed, an earth road was metalled and progress was made in the construction of a bridge across the Periyār river. Altogether, 437 miles of road, of which 315 miles were either gravelled or metalled, were maintained by the Public Works Department.

Protection and legislation

26. The Legislative Advisory Council met twice before its dissolution and discussed several amending regulations. Ten Regulations including the Pudukkōttai Legislative Council Regulation were passed during the year.

Police

The strength of the police force was slightly reduced. The number of crimes continued to decrease and there was a small increase in the standard of detection, which was, however, still unduly low. The conduct of the force was, on the whole, satisfactory.

Criminal justice

The number of cases that came up for inquiry or trial before magistrates fell from 7,367 in the previous year to 6,464. The average duration of trials before magistrates was 10·17 days as against 9·13 in the previous year. Only 13 per cent of the persons accused of offences under the Indian Penal Code and brought to trial were convicted.

Civil justice

The total number of institutions in civil courts rose from 10,219 in the previous year to 11,169. For the State as a whole one suit was instituted for every thirty-eight persons of the population. There was also an increase in the number of appeals presented to the appellate courts. The working of the Chief Court was satisfactory, the percentage of disposals being higher and the average duration of a trial being less than in the previous year.

Jails

There was no change in the number of jails. The average daily population of the Central Jail fell from 91·76 to 73·67. The health of the prisoners was good. A Board of Honorary Visitors was constituted during the year and their visits were regular and useful.

Vital statistics and medical services

27. The health of the public was good throughout the year. The registered birth-rate was 21·77 per mille as against 20·84 per mille in the previous year and the registered death-rate 17·07 per mille as against 17·74 per mille. Infant mortality continued to be high and contributed 18 per cent of the total deaths. There was a fall in the number of labour cases attended to by trained midwives or qualified medical men. The daily average of patients treated in State medical institutions rose from 918 in the previous year to 973. The temporary ayurvedic dispensary was established permanently and continued to be popular. Though vaccination was compulsory, the number of persons successfully vaccinated during the year decreased and the work of the vaccinators was found to be far from satisfactory.

Education

28. The number of educational institutions in the State rose from 564 to 574 during the year and, including pupils in private schools, the number of pupils receiving instruction rose from 29,529 to 30,265. There was one school for every 2·06 square miles or for every 743 inhabitants. The boys and girls who attended schools in rural areas formed 48·44 per cent of the total population of school-going age as against 43·88 in the

previous year. The expenditure on education was Rs. 1,73,303 as against Rs. 1,80,899 in fasli 1332. Forty-three schools were maintained exclusively for the education of children belonging to the depressed classes. The number of pupils on the rolls of the college increased from 560 to 570. Of the forty-five students who sat for the Intermediate examination, thirty passed in both parts, while of the sixty-two students who sat for the Secondary School Leaving Certificate examination thity-five were declared eligible for the University course.

BANGANAPALLE STATE

[Administration Report of the Banganapalle State for the official year 1923–24]

[The Nawab of Banganapalle, Mir Fazl Ali Khan Bahadur, succeeded his father as ruler of the State in January 1922. He maintains no army and pays no tribute. The area of the State is 275 square miles and its population 36,646]

General

29. The year was signalized by the marriage of the Nawab Sahib with the only daughter of Nawab Mir Asad Ali Khan Sahib Bahadur and by the marriage of the Nawab Sahib's sister with Saiyid Raza Ali Khan Bahadur. The Diwan, Khan Bahadur Khaja Akber Hussain Sahib, retired after 33 years' service to the State. He was succeeded by Khan Bahadur Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Khan Sahib.

Finance

30. The total revenue, exclusive of receipts under debt heads, fell from Rs. 3,99,825 in 1922–23 to Rs. 3,69,535. Expenditure under service heads also fell from Rs. 3,38,228 to Rs. 3,26,277 but with the inclusion of expenditure under debt heads the expenditure increased by Rs. 4,404.

Protection

31. There was an increase in crime, probably owing to an unfavourable season, but there was a decrease in the proportion of crimes detected. The number of convicts admitted to the jail during the year was 37. There was a slight decrease in the number and value of documents presented for registration but, owing to enhanced rates, the revenue from this source slightly increased.

Production and distribution

32. The rainfall during the year was insufficient and some of the crops failed in a number of the western villages. Fodder also was scarce but there was no disease among the cattle. The State forests continued to be worked on the permit and lease systems. Plantations of valuable trees were tended and satisfactorily maintained. The gross revenue from forests was Rs. 13,564 as compared with Rs. 12,413 in the previous year.

Medical

33. The average daily number of out-patients treated in the hospital was 90·6 as against 84·08 in the previous year and the average number of in-patients 7·23 as against 6. There were 1,241 births and 585 deaths registered during the year as against 1,081 and 686, respectively, in the previous year. The number of vaccinations performed was 2,789 as against 1,877 in the previous year and there was a substantial decline in the number of unsuccessful cases. As in the previous year, glycerine lymph, supplied by the King Institute, Guindy, was used.

Education

34. There was an increase in the number of both boys and girls who attended schools during the year. The number of the latter rose from 404 in the previous year to 430. The result of the annual examinations was satisfactory.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1333 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prices and Wages in India*]

35. There were no tracts requiring special notice on the ground of any permanent lowering in the standard of agricultural prosperity. Stocks of grain were generally sufficient, the deficit in the districts affected by scarcity having been made up by imports from outside. The prices of food-grains were at first generally lower than in the previous fasli but rose steadily owing to the unfavourable season except in Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and South Kanara. The prices at the end of the fasli were generally high, especially in Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Gōdāvari, the Deccan and the Central districts. The high price of sugar was maintained owing to the large demand for Java sugar in European countries and the average price was even higher than in the previous year ; there was much fluctuation, however, in the local prices, the price coming down in August and September 1923 owing to heavy receipts from Bombay and Java and rising again steadily till it reached the old level in March. There was an abnormal demand for jaggery from the United Kingdom as the price compared favourably with that of molasses and crude sugars from Mauritius ; the price of jaggery was therefore higher than in the previous year. Prices of articles of import declined except in the case of sugar and cotton twist and yarn. The prices of important articles of export such as cotton, hides, raw skins, tea, castor, copra and rubber showed an advance but the prices of groundnut, oil-cakes, manures, pepper and coffee showed a decline. Except in the tracts where scarcity prevailed, wages continued high and employment was generally available. The casual labourer was not so hard hit generally as the small agriculturist and tenant farmer. In Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Anantapur and Salem, labourers emigrated in fairly large numbers to Burma and the plantations in Assam and Ceylon. The year was generally bad and harvests were poor except in the deltas and the South but, owing to the mobility of agricultural produce due to facilities for railway and road transport, distress was not much felt except in the areas where famine was declared. The unfavourable season restricted progress in the demonstration of agricultural improvements by the Department of Agriculture, especially in the Deccan, where sufficient seed of improved varieties of cholam and cotton could not be laid in for next year's work, and in Chittoor and North Arcot. The delta ryot had a prosperous season. The condition of the people was not satisfactory in parts of Ganjām and Vizagapatam owing to the uneven distribution of rain and the damage caused by the cyclone but was fairly satisfactory in the rest of the Circars. The position of the Deccan ryot was very unsatisfactory, especially in Bellary and Anantapur. As a result of three bad seasons in the last five years, his stores of food-grains and fodder became depleted and he was faced with the necessity of purchasing his food at very high prices. The increasing cultivation of industrial crops like cotton and groundnut had no doubt given him more money but left him with less stocks of food to meet such a contingency. Some of the smaller ryots had to sell their lands and cattle to richer neighbours or money-lenders. The season was not much better in the greater parts of the Central districts but there was no distress owing to the fair harvests of the previous year. The condition of the ryot in the southern districts was fair. The West Coast ryot got a good paddy crop in September on high-lying lands but his condition was not very satisfactory owing to the damage by floods in July and August, the failure of the second crop season, the poor coconut crop and the low yield and price of pepper. The insufficiency of manures continued to be a serious handicap to the increased yield of crops in general.

POLITICAL PENSIONS (1923–24)

36. The political pensions in force on the 1st April 1923 amounted to Rs. 2,59,612-2-0 and were distributed among 466 pensioners. During the year under report pensions amounting to Rs. 2,021-13-0 were newly sanctioned and pensions amounting to Rs. 8,623-9-0 lapsed. Eighteen pensioners died during the year, the pensions of nine persons were commuted, three pensions were transferred to other provinces and one lapsed as the pensioner attained his majority. Ten pensioners were newly added to the list. The pensions in force on the 1st April 1924 amounted to Rs. 2,53,010-6 0 and were distributed among 445 pensioners. The payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries and the Tanjore family aggregated to Rs. 1,91,706-13-8 and Rs. 29,719-9-11, respectively. The former amount includes a sum of Rs. 2,517 which represents commutations.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1332; Statistical Abstract for British India—Financial Statistics—Land Revenue*]

Sources of land revenue

37. There was no change in the nature of the sources from which the land revenue of the Presidency is derived. The total current demand under land revenue and cesses was Rs. 8,18,07,670 as against Rs. 8,00,16,689 in fasli 1331. Rupees 7,93,52,058 were collected within the fasli and Rs. 2,510 were written off the accounts. The total amount of peshkash payable within the fasli was Rs. 49,79,964 as against Rs. 49,86,020 in the preceding year. The quit-rent payable on villages held on shrotriyam or favourable terms was Rs. 7,52,774 as against Rs. 7,53,172 in the preceding year. The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 26·32 million acres which exceeded the extent of the previous year by 87,157 acres. The increase was contributed by all the districts except Vizagapatam, Bellary, Salem and the Agency division. The increase was marked in Anantapur (16,346 acres) and was ascribed, as in the previous year, to the growing demand for land. The increase of 14,289 acres in South Arcot was due to fresh assignments and to the adoption of resurvey areas in the Vriddhāchalam taluk. The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 543·60 lakhs as against Rs. 541·27 lakhs, the revised figure for the previous year. The increase of Rs. 2,32,811 was shared by all districts except Vizagapatam and Anjengo. The marked increase in South Arcot (Rs. 1,18,886) was due to the introduction of resettlement rates in the Vriddhāchalam taluk. The total area cultivated in ryotwari holdings during the year was 19·82 million acres as compared with 19·84 million acres in the previous fasli. The area under dry cultivation, 14,933,260 acres, showed a decrease of 32,353 acres and that under wet, 4,882,458 acres, an increase of 7,058 acres. The decrease under dry was marked in Anantapur and was due to the want of sufficient rain. Including the area under "miscellaneous cultivation" the total area cultivated was 20·77 million acres as against 20·86 million acres in the previous year. The revenue derived from water-rate and second-crop charge amounted to Rs. 34·49 lakhs as against Rs. 32·60 lakhs in fasli 1331. The increase was large in North Arcot, South Arcot and Chingleput and was due to the favourable character of the season. As compared with the previous year, there were decreases under "season remissions" and "fixed remissions" and an increase under "beriz deductions," the net decrease under all three heads amounting to Rs. 64,103. The receipts from "miscellaneous revenue" amounted to Rs. 107·96 lakhs as against Rs. 100·27 lakhs in the previous year. The net ryotwari demand, including water-rate, second-crop charge and miscellaneous revenue and deducting remissions, amounted to Rs. 667·16 lakhs as against Rs. 654·61 lakhs (revised figure) in the previous fasli. The current demand under cesses increased from Rs. 81,64,813 in fasli 1331 to Rs. 87,15,070. The total balance outstanding at the end of the fasli including both arrears and current was Rs. 26,37,525.

Peshkash

Quit-rent

Assessment on ryotwari lands

Remissions

Miscellaneous

Collections

38. The charges of district administration, including the salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors but excluding those of the village establishment, were Rs. 1,08,07,870 or 13·23 per cent of the land revenue and cesses realized, the ratio in the preceding fasli being 13 per cent. The village service charges (including proprietary estates) during the fasli amounted to Rs. 1,20,50,640. Including this sum the total charges were Rs. 2,28,58,510 or 27·97 per cent of the collections of land revenue and cesses.

Coercive processes

39. The revenue was collected without much difficulty although there was a considerable increase in the total number of processes issued which numbered 1,021,355 when compared with the number issued in fasli 1331 and the previous two faslis. There was also a considerable increase in the ratio borne by the number of distraints and attachments to that of demand notices. Out of 111,939 defaulters whose property was attached, 60,799 or 54·31 per cent paid the arrears before the sale notices were issued. The number of defaulters whose property was sold was greater than in the preceding fasli. There was a noticeable increase in South Arcot, which is attributed to the tightness of the money market. The percentage of actual sales to sale notices was 12·87 as against 12·78 in fasli 1331 and the percentage of the number of defaulters to the total number of pattas was 0·13 as against 0·10. Immovable property of the estimated value of Rs. 11,26,587 was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 2,38,719, the amount realized being Rs. 1,68,976. The extent of land sold during the year was 8,276 acres under "dry" and 2,335 acres under "wet" as against 10,509 acres under "dry" and 1,737 under "wet" in fasli 1331. The total area of land bought in by Government for want of bidders was 6,773 acres of dry and 643 acres of wet land as against 5,180 acres of dry and 523 acres of wet land in fasli 1331. The number of processes served by special agency was less than in the previous fasli.

Transfers of registration

40. The number of applications for transfer of revenue registration received during the fasli from sub-registrars was 316,706 as against 332,319 in the previous fasli, the decrease being about 4·70 per cent; applications received directly by the revenue staff rose from 75,328 in the previous fasli to 94,278 or by about 25·16 per cent. The total number of applications of all kinds that required to be dealt with in the fasli, including the number pending disposal at its beginning, was 560,475; of this number, 440,657 were disposed of during the fasli, leaving a balance of 119,818 as against 150,513 in the previous year. Of the total number of applications dealt with, 6·35 per cent were rejected.

Loans and advances

41. The advances made under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 7·61 lakhs and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to 7·20—a total of 14·81 lakhs as against 21·38 lakhs in fasli 1331. The advances granted in Kurnool and Bellary showed a considerable decrease as, owing to famine, loans had been granted on a large scale in the previous year. There was an increase in the amount advanced in Rāmnād, which was due to the grant of a large loan to the Raja of Rāmnād for the repair of certain railway-affected tanks in his zamindari. Of the sums repayable under the Acts on account of principal, 73·4 per cent under the Land Improvement Loans Act and 70·6 per cent under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were collected. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts was Rs. 24,40,982, of which 15·6 per cent was collected without resorting to coercion and 51·1 per cent after the issue of demand notices. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 6,79,910 as against Rs. 6,80,693 in the previous year.

SURVEYS (1923-24)

[*Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1923-24 ; G.O. No. 1685, Revenue, dated the 31st October 1924*]

Parties

42. As in the previous year there were eight survey parties at work. Of these, three were solely employed on the resurvey of ryotwari areas in the Anantapur and Malabar districts ; two, partly on the resurvey of the delta taluks in the Kistna district and partly on the survey of the big estates of Tirumalai Devasthanam in the Chingleput district and of the Kannivādi zamindari in the Madura district ; and two more, entirely on the survey of estates. The remaining party had very little original field work and was engaged mostly on the preparation of maps for the large areas already resurveyed in the Trichinopoly district.

Operations

Ryotwari areas

43. The total out-turn of the survey parties engaged upon the cadastral resurvey of ryotwari areas was 1,999 square miles as against the forecast of 1,877 square miles. The excess of the actual over the anticipated out-turn was due to the easy nature of the resurvey of large tracts in the Anantapur district, which alone accounted for 1,283 square miles. Rain and floods, however, retarded the operations for over three months in the Ernād and Walavanād taluks in the Malabar district. An aggregate of 427 square miles in the Kistna district and 1,283 square miles in the Anantapur district was resurveyed. In Trichinopoly the resurvey of the three remaining taluks, comprising 60 square miles, was completed. Sixty-two square miles in Walavanād and 155 square miles in Ernād were resurveyed and the forecast would have been largely exceeded but for the unfavourable weather. Minor surveys were carried out in South Kanara, Tanjore, Gōdāvari and other places.

Estates

Surveys of large proprietary estates were in progress in the districts of Kistna, Chingleput, Tanjore, Madura and Rāmnād. In Kistna 74 square miles of canal-irrigated non-Government villages were surveyed at Government cost. The survey of Kachinād taluk (Tirumalai Devasthanam villages) in the Chingleput district was completed by the survey of 54 square miles, and that of the chattram villages in Tanjore was taken up and completed, 104 square miles being covered. In the Madura district the survey of the Kannivādi estate was concluded by a survey of 65 square miles, and five taluks of the Sivaganga estate, measuring 324 square miles, in the Rāmnād district were surveyed. Small extents of proprietary areas, aggregating 29·9 square miles, were also surveyed.

Urban surveys

The survey of Ongole municipality was completed. Work in the street survey of the union of Ariyalūr was started in July, but was stopped the next month owing to serious obstruction by the residents. In January, however, an advisory committee was formed and the survey was resumed.

Miscellaneous

The number of inspections made by gazetted officers of the department was 1,330, of which 18 disclosed bad work—a percentage of 1·4 as in the preceding year. All work discovered to be bad was revised.

Finance

44. The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 20,72,587 as against Rs. 20,55,310 in the previous year.

SETTLEMENTS (1923-24)

[*Report on the administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1923-24 ; G.O. No. 1685, Revenue, dated the 31st October 1924*]

Parties

45. There were four settlement parties at work during the year under report. Party No. I worked in the Tanjore district, Party No. II in the districts of South Arcot, North Arcot and Chingleput, Party No. III in the districts of Bellary and Anantapur, and Party No. IV in the districts of Trichinopoly, Madura, Rāmnād and Tinnevelly. Party No. V was kept in abeyance during the year, while the work connected with the resettlement of the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads continued up to the 31st December.

Operations

Bellary and Anantapur

46. In the black soil taluks of the Bellary and Anantapur districts the introduction of the new rates was completed, but in view of the seasonal conditions the difference between the revised and existing rates of assessment was remitted on all lands except those irrigated by the Tungabhadra channels. In the red soil taluks of the Bellary district, viz., Hospet, Hadagalli, Harpanahalli, Kūdligi and Rāyadrug, the introduction of the new rates was postponed to fasli 1334 (1924-25).

North Arcot

In the North Arcot district the issue of addenda slips to the printed diglot registers, consequent on the reclassification of lands registered as grazing ground poramboke at the resettlement, was almost completed.

Chingleput

Settlement was introduced in the resumed inam village of Erivākkam in the Conjeeveram taluk of the Chingleput district and fair accounts embodying the new rates were handed over to the Revenue Department.

South Arcot

In the South Arcot district fair accounts for 125 villages were furnished to the Revenue Department, the reports on the introduction of resettlement rates in the Chidambaram and Vriddhāchalam taluks were submitted and the survey and classification of thirteen disafforested

Tanjore

blocks situated in five taluks were completed. In the Tanjore district the hearing of objections to rough pattas was completed and fair accounts based on the new rates were furnished to the Revenue Department for the remaining 288 villages in the taluks of Tirutturaippūndi, North Tanjore, Shiyali and Pāpanāsam, for all the 59 villages of Pattukkōttai and for 126 villages of the Kumbakōnam taluk, as well as for several villages included in municipalities. As regards the taluks for which fair accounts based on the resurvey had already been furnished, revised accounts incorporating the new rates were supplied for the whole of the Nannilam taluk and for the remaining portions of South Tanjore, Mannārgudi, Māyavaram and Negapatam.

Trichinopoly

In the Trichinopoly district the revision of adangals and the preliminary field inspection were in progress in five taluks ; in Musiri taluk fair accounts based on the resurvey for fifty-four villages were handed over to the Revenue Department ; and finally the scheme report for the

Madura

resettlement of the district was submitted. In the Madura district the field inspection by classifiers was completed in eight out of the sixteen villages of the Kodaikānal taluk and diglot registers were prepared for twenty-nine out of the thirty whole inam villages.

Rāmnād

In the Rāmnād district the final scrutiny of the survey records of the resumed

Tinnevelly

inam village of Kunankulam was completed and in the Tinnevelly district preliminary accounts were prepared for seventeen villages

The Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads

included in three municipalities. The final scrutiny of the survey records was completed in all the villages in the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads.

Registers

47. The resettlement registers of 1,198 villages were sent to the Press from the Settlement Party offices and those of 805 villages were printed and despatched to Collectors.

Finance

48. The total expenditure during the year, including the cost of printing and binding resettlement registers, amounted to Rs. 11,74,785 as against Rs. 8,47,520 in 1922–23.

LAND RECORDS (1923–24)

[*Report on the administration of the Land Records Department for the year 1923–24 ; G.O. No. 1685, Revenue, dated the 31st October 1924*]

General

49. The reports of Collectors showed that, in the absence of any special agency for supervision, the maintenance of land records was deteriorating. During the year the Commissioner inspected maintenance work in nine districts and found a most unsatisfactory state of affairs in each.

Maintenance

50. Regular maintenance was in progress throughout the Presidency, except in portions of the South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and North Arcot districts. In the excepted tracts in the South Arcot and Tanjore districts regular maintenance was not commenced pending the completion of operations preliminary to maintenance. The excepted tracts in the Trichinopoly district were under resurvey. In certain taluks in the Kistna delta, in the Gōdāvari district and in parts of Malabar where resurvey was taking place or was about to take place, maintenance was confined to the measurement of current subdivisions and the replacement of stones on poramboke boundaries. Satisfactory progress was made in the check-measurement of subdivisions, but the arrears of mapping increased considerably in many districts. Stone maintenance work was again unsatisfactory in many districts. The total number of stones requiring attention decreased by 14 per cent, while there was a decrease of 13 per cent in the number of stones repaired or replaced. There was a net increase of 6 per cent in the arrears at the end of the year. The fees charged for the time and labour of the revenue staff for the renewal and repair of stones amounted to Rs. 35,388-4-0. The fees levied and collected after the Survey and Boundaries Act of 1923 came into force were refunded to the parties concerned. The condition of the great trigonometrical stations and bench marks was generally satisfactory.

Training

51. Fifteen joint survey schools were held during the year in various districts by tahsildars specially appointed for the purpose, and 357 subordinates were trained. The training of karnams was conducted by competent firka revenue inspectors and schools were held in all districts except North Arcot and the Nilgiris.

Maintenance of town and union surveys

52. The question whether the town and union surveys should be transferred to the control of the municipalities or local boards concerned was still under the consideration of Government. The Commissioner inspected the town surveys in five municipalities and found that the work of town surveyors had deteriorated. The maintenance of land records in Madras City was satisfactory.

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Season and Crop Report for the agricultural year 1923-24*]

53. The total area of the Presidency for which detailed information was received was 90·420 million acres, of which a net extent of 32·293 million acres was under cultivation as against 32·997 million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest increased from 13·108 million acres to 13·226 million acres, while 21·403 million acres (or 0·084 million acres more than in the previous fasli) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 11 122 million acres were fallow and 12·376 million acres formed culturable waste other than fallow, as against 10·211 million acres and 12·171 million acres, respectively, in the previous fasli.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

54. There is nothing to record under this head for the Presidency.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[*Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards (in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1332 1922–23)*]

Estates under management

55. Of the twenty-one estates that were under the Court's superintendence at the end of fasli 1331, the Shērmuhammadpuram estate in the Vizagapatam district was handed over to the proprietrix's half-brother, the Pedda Mērangi estate was handed over to the Collector appointed as Receiver by the Civil Court and the Kadambūr estate was restored to its proprietor on his attaining his majority. The Bodokhemidi (or Pedda Kimedi) estate in the Ganjām district and Ilayarasanendal, Part I, in the Tinnevelly district were taken under superintendence on the 21st October 1922 and the 28th July 1922, respectively, in consequence of the minority of their proprietors. Thus the number of estates under the Court's management at the end of fasli 1332, including Ūttumalai, which still continued under formal superintendence, was twenty. The Kadambūr estate was under the Court's management for nearly fifteen years. During this period the land revenue demand of the estate rose from Rs. 13,910 in fasli 1318 to Rs. 15,519 in fasli 1331 ; debts amounting to Rs. 14,960 were paid off and Rs. 10,624 were spent on improvements to pannai tanks and estate buildings. In April 1919 the ward passed the Matriculation examination from the Newington Institution in Madras. He went through the Intermediate course in the Hindu College at Tinnevelly, but failed to pass the public examination. He underwent training in the details of the estate administration for about a year under the Estate Manager prior to taking over charge. In consequence of the heavy law charges incurred some time before rendition, it was possible to hand over only Rs. 1,092 to the proprietor when he took charge. Shērmuhammadpuram was handed over with the sanction of Government, as the ward's title to the estate was not free from doubt and there were other peculiar difficulties connected with its management. The Court divested itself of the management of the Pedda Mērangi estate, as the succession to the estate after the late ward's demise was under litigation which was likely to be prolonged and there was no ward on whose behalf the Court of Wards could continue to be in charge for an indefinite period.

Estates handed over

Finance

Demand, collection and balance

56. Leaving out of account the Pedda Mērangi and Shērmuhammadpuram estates which were restored in the early part of the fasli and the Ūttumalai estate which was under the direct management of the Civil Court Receiver, the gross current demand of the estates amounted to Rs. 30·31 lakhs. Excluding remissions which amounted to Rs. 0·09 lakh, the net demand was Rs. 30·22 lakhs. Among the seventeen estates which were under management during both the faslis 1331 and 1332, there was a net increase of Rs. 1·58 lakhs in the demand of fasli 1332, which was the result of increases (Rs. 1·75 lakhs) in eleven estates and decreases (Rs 0·17 lakh) in six others. The bulk of the total increase occurred in Sivaganga (Rs. 1,11,279) and was presumably due to the favourable character of the season and the discovery of encroachments during the course of survey. Of the total current demand of Rs. 30·22 lakhs, Rs. 22·51 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0·11 lakh written off during the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 7·60 lakhs at its close. Excluding subsequent collections, remissions and amounts which Collectors and Estate Collectors recommended for remissions after the close of the fasli, the net recoverable balance on the 1st October 1923 amounted to Rs. 7·10 lakhs or 23·4 per cent of the demand. The balance was nil in Mētrātti, Māmbārai and Kadambūr, and less than 5 per cent in five other estates, while in six estates it exceeded 25 per cent. Excluding the Pedda Mērangi, Shērmuhammadpuram and Ūttumalai estates, the arrear demand of the remaining estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 11·13 lakhs, of which Rs. 5·87 lakhs were outstanding at its close. There were no outstanding arrears in

Māmbārai and Kadambūr. In seven estates the balances were below Rs. 1,000, in three below Rs. 5,000, and in two others below Rs. 10,000. In the remaining six estates, the outstanding balance exceeded Rs. 10,000. Excluding Pedda Mērangi, Shērmuhammadpuram and Uttumalai, the aggregate cash balance of the other estates at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 5·61 lakhs. The total cash receipts during the fasli amounted to Rs. 40·44 lakhs. The total assets in cash of the fasli were thus Rs. 46·05 lakhs. Deducting from this the total expenditure aggregating Rs. 40·30 lakhs, the cash balance at the close of the fasli was Rs. 5·75 lakhs. Including Government promissory notes and other securities of the aggregate face value of Rs. 3·13 lakhs held on behalf of some of the estates and the estimated value of grain on hand at the end of the fasli, viz., Rs. 2·35 lakhs, the closing balance to the credit of the estates was Rs 11·23 lakhs. The estates of Bodokhemidi, Sivaganga and Ūrkkādu had surplus balances amounting to Rs. 1·96 lakhs, Rs. 3·89 lakhs and Rs. 1·38 lakhs, respectively. The Court ordered the investment of Rs. 0·50 lakh out of the surplus balance of Bodokhemidi in three months' fixed deposits in the Imperial Bank of India at Berhampur. The surplus in Sivaganga was applied to *maramat* and to the ordinary expenditure. The cash balance in Ūrkkādu was spent on the ward's marriage and on the construction of a new palace for him. The Government promissory notes at the credit of the estate were converted into stock certificates and these certificates of the face value of Rs. 0·85 lakh were handed over to the proprietor after he assumed charge of his estate. The two model farms (viz., the Kalathikunnu and Pokkunnu farms) attached to the Dēvaswam section of the Zamorin's estate continued to work during the year. The Kalathikunnu farm is situated within the Calicut municipality and is intended not so much for purposes of demonstration as for the reclamation of waste lands. Though the yield was slightly better than in the previous year, the cost of cultivation continued to be very high. On the suggestion of the Agricultural Department, channels were opened to drain away the salt water which interfered with cultivation. The condition and yield of the coconut trees on the farm improved considerably. The Pokkunnu farm at Ottapālam, on the other hand, serves primarily as an object lesson to the adjoining tenants. Planting of coconut trees was continued during the year on the improved surface-planting system as opposed to the local pit system. Experiments were made in the cultivation of red Mauritius sugarcane and the planting of vines. The combined agricultural and dairy farm attached to the Guruvāyūr Dēvaswam estate was also worked during the year and attempts were made to demonstrate to the neighbouring ryots the utility of scientific methods of cultivation. Excluding the three estates, Pedda Mērangi, Shērmuhammadpuram and Ūttumalai, the average percentage of establishment charges and Government commission to normal receipts for all the other estates was 21·8 as against 24·6 in fasli 1331. In Mādugula the percentage, though high (40·4), was appreciably less than that of the previous year, viz., 54·6. An increase in Kadambūr was due to the smaller receipts during the fasli and the adjustment before rendition of the Government commission due on the receipts from the 1st January 1923 to the 18th March 1923, which would be ordinarily adjustable only after the close of the fasli.

Surplus balances

Agricultural improvements

Establishment charges

57. The Court paid special attention to this branch of administration as far as the finances of the estates permitted. The programmes in Chundi, Rāmapatnam, Kadavūr, Sivaganga and Talaivankōttai were followed as far as possible. The Arni programme had to be curtailed owing to the necessity for devoting all available funds to the repayment of debt. Including the trust institutions, the total *maramat* allotment in all the estates was Rs. 9·08 lakhs ; the value of work done and the work paid for amounted to Rs. 8·49 lakhs and Rs. 8·44 lakhs or 93·6 and 93·0 per cent, respectively, of the allotment. The *maramat* expenditure (Rs. 8·44 lakhs) was 24 per cent of the total ordinary charges (Rs. 35·19 lakhs) including those of the trust institutions.

Works

Debts

Debts due to the estates

58. The debts due to the several estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 9·54 lakhs. Including the loans newly granted (Rs. 0·05 lakh), debts newly brought to account (Rs. 0·01 lakh) and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0·20 lakh), the aggregate amount due was Rs 9·80 lakhs. Of this amount, Rs. 0·79 lakh was collected and Rs. 0·02 lakh was written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 8·99 lakhs at the end of the fasli. The outstanding balance was large in Bodokhemidi (Rs 0·38 lakh), Jeypore Kumārikā's estate (Rs. 7·75 lakhs) and Sivaganga (Rs. 0·56 lakh). The amount due to the Jeypore Kumārikā's estate was made up of (1) Rs. 5¼ lakhs covered by the Court's decree against the Zamindars of Peddabuddidi and Lakhanapuram, of which Rs. 27,550 were recovered during the fasli and (2) Rs. 2·50 lakhs lent to the ward's brother, the Maharaja, the bulk of which will be recovered and utilized for the expenses connected with the ward's marriage.

Debts due by the estates

The liabilities of the estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 10·57 lakhs. Including the debts newly contracted and those newly brought to account during the fasli (Rs. 5·91 lakhs) and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli (Rs. 0·66 lakh), the total liabilities amounted to Rs. 17·14 lakhs. Rupees 5·34 lakhs were repaid and Rs. 0·24 lakh was struck off, leaving a balance of Rs. 11·56 lakhs at the end of the fasli. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000, in the estates of Arni (Rs. 3·34 lakhs), Madukkūr (Rs. 1·15 lakhs), Kadavūr (Rs. 0·87 lakh), Kūdapalli (Rs. 1·41 lakhs), Sivaganga (Rs. 2·01 lakhs), Mannārkōttai (Rs. 0·53 lakh) and Ilayarasanendal (Rs. 0·53 lakh). The provisions of section 45 of the Court of Wards Act were in force in the estates of Kadavūr, Arni, Bāgalūr and Shūlagiri.

Encumbered estates

Debts amounting to Rs. 91,652 were paid off in Kadavūr (with the help of a loan taken from Bodokhemidi), leaving a balance of Rs. 86,625. In Arni a debt of Rs. 38,617 was repaid and a sum of Rs. 10,909 was struck off, leaving a balance of Rs. 3,34,072.

Education

59. The arrangements for the education and up-bringing of the wards were the same as those in force in the previous year and the wards continued to attend the local schools and colleges.

Religious and charitable institutions attached to the estates

60. The administration of these institutions was satisfactory and their financial condition was generally sound. In Sivaganga, the Devasthanam and Chattram sections of the estate, which own extensive endowments and which were placed under a separate Manager and establishment, were amalgamated in 1920 with the Ayan estate, in the interests of administration and economy, except in the matter of accounts, and this change has not so far resulted in any practical difficulty. The religious and charitable institutions under the Zamorin are not, however, self-supporting, but are actually a drain on the secular funds.

Miscellaneous

61. The second-grade college maintained by the Zamorin's estate worked satisfactorily during the year. The record of this college is one of steady progress. The strength of the institution increased and, though the scale of fees was raised, its popularity did not suffer. The college has on its rolls five Muhammadans, fourteen Chaliyans (weavers) and thirteen Tiyans, besides members of the more literary castes. The results in the public examinations were on the whole satisfactory. The Teachers' Provident Fund system was introduced and it is hoped that this will tend to reduce the number of changes in the personnel of the staff. Eight free scholarships were instituted during the year and, besides these, the Zamorin Maharaja granted a free scholarship in commemoration of his visit to the Chowghat Board High School. As usual, hockey, badminton, football and volley-ball were the favourite games of the students. The hostel attached to the college continued to work satisfactorily. The college was visited by the Hon'ble the Raja of Panagal and the Director of Public Instruction. The Government conferred on the Zamorin the personal title of "Maharaja" in recognition of the conspicuous services rendered by him to those who suffered during the Mappilla rebellion. The Raja's High School and Alice Millar Girls' School, which continued under the personal supervision of the Zamindar of Sivaganga subject to

the Estate Collector's control, worked fairly well. The financial condition of the high school was sound, but the girls' school was far from self-supporting. The hostel attached to the school was very useful. Under the personal influence of the Zamindar, football, hockey, cricket and other field games were played with vigour and zest. The Zamorin's estate continued to maintain the residential Vedic School known as the "Othenmar Madam" and to contribute to the upkeep of the Sanskrit College at Pattāmbi. The Elementary School at Urkkādu continued to work satisfactorily. Two Elementary Schools and one Middle School were maintained by the Bodokhemidi estate during the year; one of the Elementary Schools is for girls. Rapid progress was made with the survey of the important estate of Sivaganga. At the close of fasli 1332 about 530 square miles (out of about 800 square miles) had been surveyed. The forests in Sivaganga, Mādugula, Chundi, Arni and Kadavūr were worked under the rules sanctioned by Government under sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act. The subject of "Forests" is in the hands of the Zamindar of Sivaganga under the Estate Collector's general control. Proposals for extending the provisions of the Forest Act to the Shūlagiri estate are under consideration. As to the Mādugula forests, the Court has decided that no Special Forest Officer is necessary and that the District Forest Officer, Vizagapatam, may continue to exercise supervision over the estate forests. The Court instructed the Estate Collector, Zamorin's estate, to keep the forests under direct control, if there was any chance of their being taken up for rubber plantation and, if not, to lease them out, with such restrictions as he could suggest as to the conservation of immature trees. The Collector of Malabar considered that it would be to the advantage of both Government and the Zamorin's estate to lease the larger forest areas to Government. The Court, however, doubts whether the Forest Department would seriously contemplate taking a lease of the estate forests. The Cochin portion of the Rāmapatnam estate continued to be under the management of the Cochin Darbar. Its receipts amounted to Rs. 24,808 and its expenditure to Rs. 19,238. Out of the debt of Rs. 77,906 due by the estate, Rs. 11,000 were repaid, leaving a balance of Rs. 66,906, the bulk of which was due to the Cochin Devasthanam.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1332—1ST JULY 1922 TO 30TH JUNE 1923)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1332*]

Revenue-paying classes

62. The principal revenue-paying classes of the Presidency are zamindars, whole inamdars, minor inamdars and ryotwari pattadars. The last class predominated largely and contributed about 75·02 per cent of the land revenue. There was an increase of about ·33 per cent in the total extent of ryotwari holdings, as compared with that of the previous fasli.

Rent-paying classes

63. Tenants in zamindari and whole inam villages constitute the rent-paying classes. Sub-letting was prevalent among absentee pattadars, among those engaged in professions other than agriculture, and among capitalists and large landholders. The system was on the increase in the Chingleput district, where the Adi-Dravidas, who were hitherto working as farm servants, now own lands themselves and are becoming more and more independent of the land-owning classes. There was a decrease of sub-letting in Gōdāvari and parts of the Bellary district on account of the general tendency of the ryots to secure for themselves a full share of the produce owing to its enhanced value due to the rise in the prices of food-grains. In the Anantapur district, the poverty of the soil and of the average ryot, coupled with the unfavourable character of the season in the last three years, checked the tendency to sub-let.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

64. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1923-24)

Changes in the Council

65. The second general elections to the Madras Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly were held on the 31st October 1923. Owing to heavy floods in certain parts, the poll could not be completed until the 10th November 1923. Between the original date and the date fixed for the completion of the poll in the Ganjām district one of the candidates died and this necessitated a bye-election for his seat. Twenty candidates were returned unopposed for seventeen constituencies of the Legislative Council. The elected members consisted of 62 non-Brahman Hindus, 12 Brahmans, 13 Muhammadans, 5 Christians, 5 Europeans and 1 Anglo-Indian. Of the candidates returned to the Council, fifty-one were members of the previous Council. The total number of registered voters in the Presidency was 1,283,923. Of these, 425,983 out of 1,174,808 voters in contested constituencies, or 36 per cent, went to the poll. The number of voters who exercised their franchise exceeded 50 per cent in twenty-four constituencies. Although special arrangements were made to enable women to record their votes in separate polling booths, they did not exercise the franchise except to a very limited extent. Of the 89,329 female voters, 82,367 belonged to contested constituencies and of these 9,361, or 11 per cent, went to the poll. An outstanding feature of the elections was the participation in it, both as voters and as candidates, of non-co-operators, as the result of which nine Swarajists were returned to the Legislative Council. Two vacancies occurred among nominated members by resignation. These were duly filled up.

Legislation

66. The Hindu Religious Endowments Bill, to which reference was made in the previous report and which was passed by the Council on the 3rd April 1923, was returned by His Excellency the Governor with messages, dated 9th December 1923, 11th March 1924 and 31st March 1924, for reconsideration by the Council. Three Bills were introduced in the Council during the year, of which one became law. These were (1) the Tuticorin Port Trust Bill, (2) the Bill to repeal the Stage Carriages Act, 1861, in its application to the Presidency of Madras and to amend the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, and (3) the Madras Irrigation Bill. The Tuticorin Port Trust Bill, which became law, had for its object the improvement and development of Tuticorin port. It provided for the constitution of a board of trustees to administer the port under the control of the local Government. The Bill to repeal the Stage Carriages Act, 1861, in its application to the Presidency of Madras and to amend the Madras Hackney Carriage Act, 1911, had for its object the removal of certain difficulties which were experienced in the working of the Stage Carriages Act in certain districts. The expenses of working the Hackney Carriage Act had increased considerably and, as it was desirable that the

revenue to Government should approximate to the expenditure in working the Act, it was decided to raise the scale of fees. The Madras Irrigation Bill was introduced in the Council on the 6th February 1924. The Bill was before the Select Committee at the close of the year. A Bill further to amend the Court Fees Act, 1870, in its application to the Presidency of Madras, was brought before the Council on the 29th November 1923. It had for its object the removal of certain inequalities between the scales of fees paid by advocates and vakils. This Bill was opposed by the Council and the motion to read it in Council was by leave withdrawn. The motion to introduce the Madras Land Revenue Settlement Bill was made on the 28th March 1924 but it was rejected by the Council.

POLICE (1923)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1923; Statistical Abstract for British India—Police*]

Administrative changes

67. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force, exclusive of the East Coast Special Police, on the last day of the year was 29,400 or 196 less than the sanctioned strength in the previous year. The biggest factor in this decrease was the abolition of the Rajahmundry Special Force. The post of Special Superintendent of Police created in 1922 for the charge of the rebellion area in Malabar was abolished and the police districts of North Malabar, South Malabar and Malappuram were re-constituted into two districts, namely, North Malabar comprising the pre-rebellion North Malabar district with the Calicut Circle, and South Malabar comprising the rest of Malabar. In consequence of the abolition of the Agency Division the police district of Jeypore was re-constituted and the Agency areas which formerly belonged to the districts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam and Gōdāvari were restored to them. Casualties in the permanent force numbered 1,717 as against 1,910 in 1922. This decrease was mainly due to there being fewer discharges. The health of the force continued to be good.

Casualties

Recruitment and discipline

68. As the force in a number of districts was below sanctioned strength, recruitment was renewed in March but was stopped in October owing to the projected reductions in strength which had been recommended by the Police Retrenchment Committee. There was a slight increase in the number of departmental punishments inflicted, which, expressed as a percentage of the actual strength of the force, amounted to 30·8 per cent as against 29·6 per cent in 1922. This increase was mainly due to the necessity for special severity in certain districts. There was, however, a further decline in the number of police officers convicted by criminal courts. Of the 97 officers so convicted, 51 were convicted for offences committed by them in their private capacity. The I.S.O. was conferred upon Mr. A. B. G. Snesdell, three officers obtained the title of Khan Bahadur, one officer that of Rao Bahadur, and five officers that of Rao Sahib, while twelve officers received the King's Police Medal. The number of officers who were granted monetary rewards increased from 4,534 to 5,623, and the amount granted, from Rs. 32,907 to Rs. 44,223.

Rewards

Education

69. The percentage of illiterate head constables was 0·7 of the total strength of this rank at the end of the year, while that of illiterate constables was 6·4, both being less than the corresponding figures for the previous year. The Central Recruits' Schools at Vellore and Anantapur were reopened during the year. At the close of the year there were 10 probationary officers under training at the Provincial Training School, Vellore, and the class for Sub-Inspectors was reopened in November with a strength of 100. In addition to the usual instruction in Law, Survey and First-aid, a course of special physical training was added. There

Shorthand Bureau

were 36 Sub-Inspectors on the strength of the Shorthand Bureau at the end of the year. During the year they attended 999 political meetings and 13 conferences and gave evidence in ten prosecutions, of which nine were successful. The higher speed in Telugu was increased from 80 words per minute to 90 and the higher speed in Urdu Shorthand from 135 to 140 words per minute.

Cost

70. The total cost of the department for the year 1923-24 was Rs. 1,67,99,238 as against Rs. 1,72,42,974 for the previous year. This decrease amounting to Rs. 4,43,736 would have been considerably greater but for the "fituri" in the Agency which caused an expenditure of about 9 lakhs of rupees. Various measures of retrenchment, including the abolition of certain conveyance and local allowances and of one appointment of Deputy Inspector-General of Police, effected a saving of Rs. 7·74 lakhs.

Village Police

71. The reporting of crimes by village officers was fairly satisfactory; but the watching of criminals and the performance of patrols were to some extent neglected. Rewards amounting to Rs. 4,020 were granted to 520 village officers as against Rs. 5,179 given to 607 officers during the previous year. Letters of thanks or certificates of appreciation were granted in cases where they were likely to be more acceptable than monetary rewards.

Armed Reserves

72. The Armed Reserves in districts were maintained in a state of efficiency. A striking force, designated the East Coast Special Police, was organized on the lines of the Malabar Special Police and was employed in the Agency operations. The permanent strength of this force which is in charge of an Assistant Superintendent of Police and is organized in two companies is 7 Indian officers and 221 other ranks. An additional company was formed temporarily for the Agency operations.

Railway Police

73. The jurisdiction of the Madras Railway Police remained unchanged while that of the Trichinopoly Railway Police was extended by 38 miles in consequence of the opening of a branch railway line from Tinnevelly bridge to Tiruchendūr. The number of thefts decreased from 2,738 to 2,242, but there were 34 attempts to derail trains as against 9 in the previous year. In Tanjore there was an attempt, apparently aimed at the life of the District Traffic Superintendent, to turn the Boat Mail train into his private carriage by altering the points.

C.I.D. and control of criminals

74. The importation of a large quantity of seditious literature by agitators from abroad, the increased activities of communists in India, the visit of His Excellency the Viceroy to this Presidency and the sitting of the All-India Congress at Cocanada, entailed heavy work on the Criminal Investigation department. Special enquiries were also made on a variety of subjects including corruption in the railway, note-forgery, tracing of all-India criminals, railway shortages and missing postal bags. The Finger-print Bureau dealt with 16,595 references for the antecedents of unidentified persons, i.e., 1,143 references less than in the previous year. The introduction of the system of taking the finger-prints of the menials employed by the traffic departments of the railways was effective in deterring undesirables from seeking employment. The finger-print staff attended courts on 426 occasions to prove convictions or give expert evidence and in 79 cases written opinions were furnished. The provisions of sections 3 and 10 of the Criminal Tribes Act were applied to thirteen tribes during the year and the members of another tribe were ordered to report themselves at fixed intervals under section 10 (*a*). A satisfactory feature of the year was the fact that convictions under the Criminal Tribes Act fell from 2,849 to 2,322. At the close of the year there were 7,139 men, women and children belonging to criminal tribes in the various settlements. A good deal of the organized crime in the neighbourhood of the criminal settlements in Guntūr and Nellore districts was still attributable to the members who had escaped from the settlements. Continued success attended the special measures employed in the Madura district to reform the Kallars without the application of the Criminal

Tribes Act, but an attempt to reform the Kallars in the Tanjore district by similar measures was not successful.

Crime

75. A slight fall in the average prices of staple food grains was accompanied by a considerable decrease (8·2 per cent) in the amount of grave crime, there being 2,928 cases less than last year. The total number of true cases of cognizable crime further declined from 52,067 to 48,610. The largest proportion of crimes occurred in Madras City, Kurnool, the Nilgiris, Anantapur and Cuddapah. Taking the Presidency as a whole there was one case for every 2,222 inhabitants. Except for the "fituri" in the Agency there were no disturbances of the public peace of any magnitude during the year. The Police forces engaged in the suppression of this outbreak, however, were unable to make much progress. The chief causes for this appear to have been that, although the numbers of police engaged were more than sufficient to deal with the rebels in action, they were not sufficient to patrol and search adequately the very large area of country in which the rebels were likely to be found. The attitude of the villagers also continued to be hostile to the Government and information which the police might reasonably have hoped to receive was denied to them or withheld intentionally until it was too late to take any action upon it. In the Tinnevelly district sustained efforts were made to capture Jambulinga Nadan, as the result of which the notorious criminal and his chief associate were shot dead, after they had wounded three of the party who were seeking to arrest them. After his third escape from jail the dacoit became a sort of hero to his community in the area where he operated, and with some justification newspapers referred to him as the "Indian Robin Hood."

Detection and prevention of crime

76. The percentage of detections remained substantially at the same figure as in the previous year. There was a slight fall in the percentage of murders that were successfully detected and a slight improvement in the detection of theft and cattle theft. In 7·1 per cent of the total number of cases reported investigation was refused, the percentage of such cases being 8·1 in the previous year. The percentage of lost property recovered was 20·7 as against 23·6 in 1922. The number of prosecutions conducted by the prosecuting staff in Madras City was 2,057 as against 1,695 in the previous year, in the mufassal the number was 8,257 as against 10,751. The percentage of successful prosecutions in the mufassal fell from 76·4 to 71·7.

Escapes

77. During the year 119 persons escaped from police custody as against 183 in the previous year and of these 88 were re-captured in addition to 18 who had escaped in previous years. Of the police responsible, 77 were punished departmentally and 14 were convicted. In addition 13 officers responsible for escapes in previous years were convicted under the Indian Penal Code or the Police Act.

False cases

78. The number of cases struck off as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,495, i.e., 118 less than in 1922. In 179 cases the persons preferring the false complaints were prosecuted and 66 persons were convicted. Of the cases instituted by the police 0·09 per cent were declared false after trial.

Security proceedings

79. The number of persons of bad livelihood who were ordered by the Criminal Courts to furnish security during the year was 1,343 as against 1,793 in 1922. Of these, 598 were petty thieves, 402 were known depredators and 36 were receivers of stolen property.

Madras City Police

80. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 1,969 or 23 less than at the end of the previous year. Recruitment was easy and a better type of recruits was obtained. The total cost of the force was Rs. 12,98,331 as against Rs. 12,39,970 in 1922, the increase being mainly due to the formation of a motor investigation staff consisting of one inspector and four sub-inspectors, the payment of certain charges that were in arrears and to the comparatively small number of vacancies in the force. The number of departmental punishments awarded (including black-marks) expressed as a percentage of the actual strength of the force was 54·2 as against 35 in 1922. The system of

inflicting deferred punishments was freely employed. There was no substantial variation in the statistics of crime. A satisfactory feature of the year was that out of the 1,172 cases under the Indian Penal Code instituted by the police no case was declared false after trial. Seventy-two persons were prosecuted under the security sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and of these 62 were ordered by the Courts to furnish security for their good behaviour, as against 30 in 1922. The work of the Intelligence Department continued to be heavy.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1923)

[*Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Criminal Justice*]

General

81. The number of Criminal Courts in the Presidency at the end of the year, including the High Court, was 966 as against 948 at the end of the previous year. In addition, six Subordinate Judges exercised the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. At the close of the year there were 96 Honorary Magistrates sitting on the Benches of Magistrates for the town of Madras and these Benches continued to render a substantial measure of assistance to the stipendiary magistrates. In the mufassal six new Bench Courts were established and one was abolished. Besides Magistrates of the classes already mentioned 2,207 Village Magistrates and 1,450 Panchayat Courts exercised criminal jurisdiction, the number of Panchayat Courts with criminal jurisdiction being nearly trebled during the year.

Original cases

82. The total number of original cases instituted in the Criminal Courts during the year was 326,293, or 21,251 more than in the previous year, while the number of appeals fell from 8,661 to 7,975, the average for the preceding five years being 8,686.

Village Magistrates' Courts

In the Village Magistrates' Courts the total number of cases instituted fell from 6,212 to 5,337. Of these, 16·05 per cent were convicted as against 15·48 per cent in 1922.

Village Panchayat Courts

The total number of cases instituted in the Village Panchayat Courts was 21,030 and the number of persons tried was 33,721, both figures being many times in excess of those for the previous year.

Bench Courts

The Bench Courts continued to work satisfactorily on the whole. They disposed of 84,876 cases, while 706 cases were pending at the end of the year. For the causes mentioned in last year's administration report, however, the relief they were able to give to the regular magistracy was limited.

Regular Magistrates

The number of cases instituted in the regular Magistrates' Courts in the mufassal was 179,398 as against 183,949 in 1922, of which 4,499 were pending at the end of the year as against 5,393. The average duration of each trial fell from nine days to eight days. Before Special Magistrates the average duration was 2 days ; before Sub-Magistrates, 12 ; before Assistant Magistrates, 18 ; before Joint Magistrates, 33 ; and before Deputy Magistrates, 12.

Presidency Magistrates

The total number of cases instituted in the Presidency Magistrates' Courts was 40,752 as against 31,036 in 1922 and 288 cases were pending at the close of the year.

Sessions Courts

The number of cases committed to Sessions Courts in the mufassal was 1,710 as against 1,876 in 1922 and the total number of cases pending at the end of the year was 88 as against 171. The average duration of cases in these Courts fell from 49 days to 46 days.

High Court

Of the persons brought to trial 51·97 per cent were acquitted. The number of cases committed to the High Court Sessions was 24 as against 32 in the previous year. Three cases were pending at the end of the year. The percentage of conviction in the High Court was 65 per cent.

Appeals

83. Of the persons convicted and sentenced by second-class and third-class Magistrates, 11,255 appealed to first-class Magistrates as against 11,861 in 1922.

Magistrates' Courts

The number of appeals pending at the end of the year was reduced from 847 in 1922 to 582. The average period which elapsed between the presentation of an appeal and its disposal in the Courts of the

Subdivisional Magistrates was 21 days as against 24 days in the previous year. The percentage of appellants successful in having their convictions reversed or the proceedings quashed was 34·81 as against 34·94 in 1922. The number of persons who appealed to the Sessions Courts against the decisions of first-class Magistrates was 2,391 as against 2,177 in 1922 and the number of persons whose appeals were pending at the end of the year increased by one. The average duration of appeals in the Sessions Courts rose from 33 days in 1922 to 35 days. The percentage of appellants who succeeded in their appeals rose from 18·89 in 1922 to 26·80. The number of appellants to the High Court was 3,381 as against 3,728 in 1922 and 1,450 in 1921. The Special Tribunals and other Courts in Malabar contributed 909 appeals involving 2,291 persons out of a total of 3,245 persons. The pressure of criminal work in the High Court therefore continued to be very heavy. The Government appealed against the acquittal of 93 persons as against 46 persons in the previous year. In the case of 56 of these the acquittal was upheld, while in the case of 30 the acquittal was set aside and a conviction recorded. In the case of 7 proceedings were still pending at the end of the year. The appeals of 701 persons were rejected *in limine*. In the case of 1,595 persons the finding and sentences were maintained after notice, in the case of 435 persons the sentences were reduced or altered and in those of 390 the sentence was reversed. New trial or further inquiry was ordered in the case of twelve persons. The appeals of 248 persons were pending at the end of the year as against 545 in 1922. The percentage of entirely successful appellants was 12·45 per cent as against 4·71 per cent in the previous year.

Sessions Courts

The High Court

84. The District Magistrates received 706 applications for revision as against 593 in 1922 and took up 17 cases *suo motu* or on reports from their Subdivisional Magistrates as against 24 in the previous year. In the Sessions Courts 583 applications were presented, or 67 more than in 1922, and the number of cases taken up by them *suo motu* was 47 as against 39. The number of revision petitions received in the High Court was 961, a decrease of 15 on the figure for 1922. One hundred and thirty cases were reported by District Magistrates and Sessions Judges and 54 were taken up by the High Court *suo motu*. The death sentences pronounced on 161 persons were referred to the High Court for confirmation. In the case of 109 persons the convictions were upheld and the sentences of death confirmed. The sentence was commuted to transportation for life in the case of 33 persons and to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years in the case of three. Ten persons had their convictions reversed and were acquitted, while in the case of six persons the conviction was set aside and a new trial ordered. One person was reprieved by the local Government and another by the Government of India.

Reference and revision

85. Of the 1,391 persons tried by jury, the verdict was approved in the case of 1,366. In the case of 25 persons, when the Judge considered the verdict sufficiently perverse, a reference was made to the High Court Of the references which came before the High Court during the year, the verdict passed on seven persons was upheld and that passed on 19 was reversed. Of these latter, nine had been found guilty and ten not guilty. The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors was 2,204. In the case of 1,283 persons the Judges agreed with all the assessors, in the case of 440 persons they differed from one or more of them, and in the case of 481 from all the assessors.

Jury system

Assessors

86. Of the cases for disposal under the Indian Penal Code, 13·15 per cent were rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, as the magistrates found no reasonable grounds for proceeding. The percentage of such cases in the previous year was 12·78. Compensation was awarded to only 1,579 persons against whom frivolous and vexatious complaints were brought under section 250 of the same Code, as against 1,524 in 1922. As a very large percentage of cases involving certain offences, such as hurt, criminal force and assault, theft, insult and annoyance did not result in conviction, it would seem that, as in the previous year, neither of

Miscellaneous

these sections were sufficiently employed by the Courts. The percentage of conviction in all cases tried under the Indian Penal Code was 38·56 as against 40·20 in 1922. The total number of sentences passed during the year was 219,378, of which 109 were of death, 241 of transportation, 6 of penal servitude, 18,594 of rigorous imprisonment, 7,935 of simple imprisonment, 131 of forfeiture of property, 189,837 of fine and 617 of whipping. The fines imposed amounted to Rs. 11,95,825, of which a sum of Rs. 49,329 was paid to complainants as compensation. The number of juveniles convicted during the year was 1,682 boys and 391 girls as against 1,958 boys and 379 girls in 1922. Of the 723 juveniles convicted under the Forest Act, 290 were girls. The sentences on 28 boys were commuted to detention in the reformatory schools; 78 were discharged after admonition and 44 were delivered to their parents or guardians. There was a small decrease in the amount disbursed as travelling allowance and batta to witnesses, but the sums paid to jurors and assessors on this account rose from Rs. 26,620 to Rs. 29,100.

Punishments

PRISONS (1923)

[*Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1923; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prisons*]

Accommodation

87. The number of central, special and district jails remained the same during the year, viz., 10, 2 and 4, respectively, but the number of sub-jails decreased from 322 to 317 owing to the closure of the sub-jail at Virudupatti and the abolition of the four temporary sub-jails opened in the Malabar district to accommodate Mappilla undertrial prisoners. The Police Recruits' School at Coimbatore, which was temporarily utilized for accommodating extra prisoners in connexion with the Mappilla rebellion, was handed over to the Police department. There was temporary overcrowding in a few jails but timely arrangements were made either for the transfer of the excess prisoners to jails with accommodation to spare or for housing the excess prisoners in tents or temporary sheds.

Prisoners of all classes

88. The year opened with a population of 24,348 prisoners of all classes, while 94,202 were received and 97,623 were discharged, leaving 20,927 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average fell from 24,397·53 to 22,242·95. The decrease was chiefly due to the small number of Mappilla prisoners admitted during the year. The number of undertrial prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year was 4,087, while 38,846 were admitted, making a total of 42,933. The daily average was 2,423·31 as against 5,134·90 in 1922. Of the number confined, 43·15 per cent were convicted and 56·59 were acquitted and released. Twenty-five prisoners escaped and 42 died in prison. Prisoners awaiting trial before Sessions Courts were detained on an average for 30·08 days and those pending trial before Magistrates for 10·68 days as against 30·50 and 19·40 days, respectively, in 1922. There were 709 civil prisoners (including State prisoners) in custody at the beginning of the year; 4,255 were received and 4,044 released during the year; 34 were transferred and 9 died, leaving a population of 877 at the close of the year. The daily average was 645·15 as compared with 484·35 in the year preceding. There were 90 State prisoners in confinement at the beginning of the year and 117 were admitted during the year. Of these, one was released on medical grounds and 3 died. Two hundred and three prisoners remained at the close of the year. With the exception of two Agency prisoners, all the others were Mappillas concerned in the Malabar rebellion.

Undertrial prisoners

Civil prisoners

State prisoners

Convicts

89. On the 1st January 1923 there were 19,300 male and 252 female convicts. The number received by direct commital was 22,839 males and 983 females as compared with 31,830 males and 1,079 females in 1922. The total number of convicts received by transfer was 27,279 as

against 42,975 in the previous year. Of those discharged during the year, 2,872 were released on appeal, 17,555 on expiry of sentence, 4,460 under the remission rules and 363 by order of Government. Thirteen convicts were deported to the Andamans, 30 convicts were transferred to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 10 escaped and remained at large till the end of the year, 124 were executed and 317 died. At the close of the year, 18,243 convicts were in custody. The daily average number of convicts was 19,174·49 or 396·21 more than in 1922. Hindus formed 79·94 per cent of the admissions, Muhammadans 15·31 per cent and Christians 4·74 per cent. The number of convicts admitted under 16 years of age decreased from 104 to 59, and the number of youthful offenders under the age of 15 years from 25 to 17; of the 17 juveniles (14 boys and 3 girls, 8 boys were transferred to the Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput, 3 boys were released by the District Magistrates concerned and 3 boys and 2 girls completed their sentences in prison; one girl was conditionally released by the order of Government and sent to reside in a Salvation Army institution until the expiry of her sentence. On the last day of 1922 there were 358 adolescents in confinement in the Tanjore Borstal School, of whom 308 were between 15 and 21 years and 50 were aged 21 years and over. Only 18 were received by direct committal; 402 were transferred from other jails; 289 were discharged and 489 remained at the end of 1923, excluding three adolescent State prisoners. A large number of Mappilla adolescents, for whom accommodation was not available at Tanjore, and of whom many were not in every respect entirely suitable for the Borstal school, were concentrated in the District Jail, Palamcottah, under a modified Borstal régime. The scheme worked profitably and the boys took a keen interest in the educational and industrial training given to them and showed considerable development in this respect. The system of grades introduced in the Tanjore school last year, viz., the ordinary, the star and the special star, worked satisfactorily. The privileges allowed to boys of the star grades were appreciated and inspired those in the ordinary grade with the desire to earn similar privileges. Owing to the difficulty in finding suitable probation officers willing to take charge of the inmates, only 6 inmates were conditionally released during the year, of whom 4 were released on the recommendation of the Advisory Board. One was released and sent as a tailor maistry and drill instructor to the District Jail, Palamcottah, on a salary of Rs. 30—1—35, and another, who was a monitor and assistant to the Tamil teacher in the school, was released and entrusted to the care of his father. The Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society and its District Committees rendered much help in affording after-care to Borstal boys on release. Small money grants are given to adolescents on release from the Borstal School, Tanjore, by the Society, to enable them to start in life, and probation officers are found in the majority of cases to see to their after-care.

Juveniles

90. The conduct of the prisoners was on the whole satisfactory, a substantive reduction in the number of escapes and offences and punishments being noticeable. There were 18 escapes during the year, of which 10 were from sub-jails, as compared with 27 escapes during 1922, of which 7 were from sub-jails. Twelve convicts, including 3 who escaped in previous years, were recaptured during the year. There was an appreciable decrease in the number of jail offences dealt with by Superintendents which fell from 4,829 to 3,485 in spite of an increase in the daily average convict population. Sixteen offences were dealt with by criminal courts as against 96 in the year previous. The total number of punishments and the ratio per cent of punishments to average strength also declined from 4,939 and 26·30 in 1922 to 3,501 and 18·26, respectively. There was only one case of corporal punishment during the year, which shows that whipping as a punishment is now only resorted to in very grave offences. The system of classification introduced during the latter part of 1922 for non-habitual prisoners, viz., star class and ordinary, was extended and developed during the year. In this

Conduct

Star class

system, the best of the casual class are separated from the worst to avoid any possibility of contamination, and the two classes are kept apart rigidly at night, and, as far as possible, at work parades, school, recreation, etc. The system worked well and was appreciated by the star class prisoners.

Special division prisoners

A "special division" for the treatment of selected prisoners sentenced to simple imprisonment, for whom the ordinary treatment is considered unsuitable owing to their education, status and character, was created during the year. The selection of prisoners for inclusion in this division is made by the convicting courts subject to confirmation by the Government. Pending such confirmation, the prisoners so selected are treated as undertrial prisoners. The prisoners of this class are kept separate from ordinary prisoners and given special privileges in regard to diet, clothing and bedding, interviews, etc. A very few special division prisoners were confined during the year but the privilege of the classification was undoubtedly appreciated.

Habituals

The total number of habituals dealt with was 6,991, forming 19·61 per cent of the convict population, and these were the recipients of 38·62 per cent of the total number of punishments. Habitual offenders whose confinement in ordinary jails was considered inadvisable were removed to the recidivist jails at Salem and Vizagapatam according as they belonged to the south or north.

Remission

During the year 4,160 convicts were released under the remission rules as compared with 3,647 in the preceding year. Special remission for continuous good conduct was awarded to 8,085 convicts, as against 3,331 in 1922. Extra remission for work turned out over and above the prescribed task was earned by 1,311 convicts.

Advisory Boards

91. Advisory Boards for reconsidering the sentences of long-term prisoners who are not habituals were constituted during the year in all central and district jails. A Board consists of the Inspector General of Prisons as Chairman, the Sessions Judge and a non-official member with the Superintendent of the jail as Secretary. The cases of all prisoners sentenced to periods over three years and who have completed two-thirds of their sentences are considered by these Boards who make recommendations for the conditional release of such as are thought to be deserving. Five hundred and sixty cases were placed before the Boards during the year for consideration, of which 260 were rejected and 300 recommended to Government. The release of 233 prisoners was effected during the year on such recommendations.

Education

The paid teaching staff continued to impart elementary education to prisoners under 30 years of age and to deliver lectures on religious and moral subjects. Honorary lecturers appointed for the purpose and the senior members of the jail staff delivered lectures on moral and religious subjects and the medical subordinates lectured on matters of medical interest. The jail schools are frequently visited by the inspecting officers of the Educational Department and their suggestions were carried out as far as possible. As usual, technical teaching was imparted by paid instructors to convicts employed in the various industries with a view to making them expert craftsmen. Each central and district jail is furnished with a library and the prisoners were given facilities for reading and study. The scheme of providing recreation for well-behaved prisoners in association wards between lock-up and sleeping time, and of employing literate convicts to read aloud to other prisoners, was carried out in all jails and was much appreciated.

Aid on discharge

The Madras Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society did good work during the year in rendering assistance to deserving discharged prisoners. Three new District Committees and two Branch Committees were formed during the year. No less than 600 prisoners were assisted by the Society in securing employment, providing shelter and food and granting small sums of money to start life afresh. The Prisoners' Home in Madras filled a much felt want and sheltered no less than 94 homeless ex-prisoners during the year, while endeavours were being made to find them suitable employment.

Vital statistics

92. The health statistics, in spite of the large number of old and decrepit prisoners suffering from chronic ailments in custody during the

year, were remarkably good, and the sick and mortality rates were among the most favourable for some years past. The admissions to hospital fell from 14,959 to 8,280, as also the daily average sick from 742·70 to 383·61. There were only 368 deaths during the year as compared with 1,230 in the preceding year. The death-rate per mille fell from 50·41 to 16·54 which is the most satisfactory on record since the year 1917. There were no deaths from cholera during the year, though cholera prevailed in the vicinity of several jails and took its toll from the free population. A type of dysenteric gastro-enteritis in epidemic form broke out in the Alipuram Jail, but was soon brought under control. There were four suicides, one accidental death and three deaths which occurred out of hospital, the other deaths being chiefly due to dysentery, pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, etc. The treatment of hookworm on modern lines, as advocated by Government, was carried out in all jails. All wells were periodically cleaned and hankinised. As a preventive measure water for drinking purposes was chlorinated. At Vellore, an automatic chlorinating apparatus was provided. The scheme for supplying water to the Bellary Central Jail through pipes from the artesian well was completed. In many jails improvements were made in kitchen and latrine accommodation and in the systems for the disposal of refuse. The Central Laundry system introduced in all jails in the previous year proved to be satisfactory. A surgical ward for female prisoners was constructed at Rajahmundry and an additional tubercular ward for ten patients was added at Bellary. Improvements to the hospitals at Rajahmundry, Alipuram, Salem, Madura and Berhampur were carried out. Many other minor improvements were effected and sanitary fittings supplied to jails requiring them. Sanitation

93. The total expenditure, excluding the outlay on jail buildings by the Public Works Department, amounted to Rs. 32,77,381 or Rs. 5,13,776 less than that of the previous year. The decline in prison population and the favourable rates obtained for food supplies were responsible for the low expenditure. The cash earnings amounted to Rs. 1,11,841 as compared with Rs. 3,27,285. The decline in cash earnings by Rs. 2,15,444 was due partly to a curtailment of orders from public consuming departments, owing to the general policy of retrenchment enforced by Government, and to the large outlay in the purchase of khaki dyeing plant. The outlay on jail buildings was Rs. 3,55,147 as against Rs. 3,81,019 in the preceding year. The amount spent by this department under petty construction and repairs was Rs. 49,556 as against Rs. 37,054 in 1922. The increase in expenditure under petty construction and repairs was chiefly due to the several works being undertaken by Superintendents instead of by the Public Works Department, due to the enhanced limit of financial powers. **Finance**

94. Official and non-official visitors paid 738 visits as against 727 in the preceding year. His Excellency the Governor and the Quarter-master General, Army Forces in India, visited the Alipuram Jail. The Hon'ble Sir Arthur Knapp visited the Alipuram Jail and the Borstal School, Tanjore; the Hon'ble Sir Charles Todhunter, the Central Jail, Vellore, and the Hon'ble Mr. R. A. Graham, the Central Jail, Coimbatore. **Miscellaneous**

CIVIL JUSTICE (1923)

[*Statistics of Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923; Statistical Abstract for British India—Civil Justice*]

95. The total number of permanent Courts which exercised civil jurisdiction during the year was fifteen more than in 1922. There were in addition nineteen Temporary Subordinate Judges' Courts and fourteen Temporary District Munsifs' Courts. **General**

96. The total number of suits instituted in the Presidency, including those in Village and Panchayat Courts, during the year was 551,370 as against 530,538 in 1922. The increase in institutions occurred in the **Litigation**

Revenue and the Village Panchayat Courts. In the Presidency as a whole, one suit was instituted for every 77 persons of the population as against one for every 80 persons in 1922, while in the Presidency town the ratio increased from one for every 30 persons in 1922 to one for every 27 persons. The revenue district of Malabar was the most, and the Bellary district the least, litigious district. The number of suits instituted for money or movable property was 483,153 or 91·5 per cent of the total number as against 95·4 per cent in 1922. The number of suits for immovable property, other than mortgage suits, was 18,818 as against 19,779 in the previous year, while the number instituted in Revenue Courts was 23,115 as against 18,708. The number of mortgage suits instituted was 20,621 as against 22,485 in 1922 and the number of suits for specific relief was 3,857 as against 4,160. The total value of suits instituted in courts, other than Village and Panchayat Courts, Revenue Courts and unpaid tribunals, was Rs. 9,94,85,620 or Rs. 1,65,21,553 less than in 1922, the average value of a suit being Rs. 331 as against Rs. 371 in that year. Apart from suits in the Revenue Courts but including those in the Village and the Panchayat Courts, 28·69 per cent of the suits instituted were of the value of Rs. 20 and under as against 28·43 per cent in 1922 and 65·84 per cent were between the values of Rs. 20 and Rs 500. The number of suits above Rs. 500 in value was 28,085 as against 29,464 in 1922. The number of suits triable by Village or Panchayat Courts, which were filed before higher tribunals, was 68,923, being 13,320 less than the number of such suits in the previous year. Plaintiffs succeeded in obtaining decrees for the whole or a part of the relief claimed by them in 79·13 per cent of the suits decided during the year apart from suits compromised or settled before trial. In 73·10 per cent of contested cases the plaintiffs obtained decrees for the whole or a part of the relief for which they applied. The total number of appeals preferred was 16,645 or 940 more than in the previous year.

Original jurisdiction

97. The total number of suits instituted in Village Munsifs' Courts decreased from 99,545 in 1922 to 88,106, the fall being again due to the opening of Village Panchayat Courts. The total number of suits instituted in Panchayat Courts increased from 99,569 in 1922 to 139,630. At the end of the year 22,935 suits remained for disposal as against 15,776 at the end of the previous year. Though these courts gained in popularity, only one-quarter of the suits filed in them represented relief to the regular courts. This was due, in part, to the fact that the latter did not make full use of their powers of transferring suits to the Panchayat Courts, only 1,042 suits being so transferred. The number of suits filed in the Revenue Courts, other than in the Agency tracts, rose from 18,579 to 22,533. The disposals increased from 17,173 in 1922 to 23,823, but the pendency also increased from 10,019 to 10,420. The average duration of uncontested suits was 120 days and of contested suits 327 days as compared with 90 days and 231 days, respectively, in the previous year. The percentage of appeals preferred against the decision of these Courts rose from 12·25 in 1922 to 13·27, while only 23·41 per cent of original decrees were confirmed as against 34·18 per cent in 1922. The number of suits instituted in Agency Courts was 1,274 as against 1,526 in the previous year. Of these 647 were left pending at the end of the year as against 480 in 1922. In the District Munsifs' Courts, other than those in the Agency tracts, 101,896 ordinary suits were instituted as against 106,184 suits in 1922. This decrease in litigation was attributable to the continued effect of the recent Court Fees Act. The number of suits pending fell from 52,559 to 50,956 during the year. There was also a marked decrease in the number of suits pending for over a year in these Courts and in the number of small cause suits instituted in them. The average duration of contested ordinary suits rose from 345 days in 1922 to 351 days in 1923, while that of uncontested suits fell from 63 days to 61 days. The average duration of contested small cause suits fell from 93 days to 86 days, the duration of uncontested suits (45 days) remaining the same. In the Special Small Cause Courts 17,181 suits were filed as against 19,207 in 1922, the average duration of contested and uncontested suits falling from 133 days and 42 days, respectively, to

Village Munsifs' Courts

Village Panchayat Courts

Revenue Courts

Agency Courts

District Munsifs' Courts

Special Small Cause Courts

129 days and 37 days. The number of suits instituted in Subordinate Judges' Courts during the year was 2,627 as against 3,058 in 1922. The pendency decreased from 4,159 to 3,529 during the year, as did also the number of suits pending for over a year. There was an increase in the number of small causes filed but the pendency decreased by 123. The average duration of contested original suits in Subordinate Judges' Courts was 615 days as against 541 days in 1922 and 81 days as against 100 in the case of uncontested suits. The average duration of contested small cause suits rose from 155 days in 1922 to 160 days, while that of uncontested suits fell from 147 days to 57 days. In the District Courts, other than those in the Agency tracts, 475 ordinary suits were filed, this figure being 57 lower than that for the previous year. The pendency increased by one. The average duration of contested original suits fell from 510 days in 1922 to 464 days, while that of uncontested suits rose from 130 days to 169 days. In the Madras City Civil Court 582 suits were instituted as against 553 in 1922. The arrears fell from 362 to 346 during the year. The average duration rose from 332 days in 1922 to 345 days, but fell from 57 days to 50 days in the case of uncontested suits. In the Presidency Court of Small Causes the number of suits instituted rose from 15,942 in 1922 to 17,773, the arrears from 3,107 to 4,518 and the average duration of contested and uncontested suits from 107 days and 43 days, respectively, to 123 days and 50 days. In the High Court of Judicature 979 suits were filed as against 1,105 in the previous year. The total number of suits for disposal decreased from 2,379 in 1922 to 2,311, while the arrears rose from 1,306 to 1,349. The average duration of contested suits was 497 days and of uncontested suits 175 days as against 432 and 160 days, respectively, in the previous year.

Subordinate Judges' Courts

District Courts

City Civil Court

Presidency Small Cause Court

The High Court

98. The number of regular appeals filed in the Agency tracts fell from 79 in 1922 to 57. The number of appeals pending at the end of the year was 38. The average duration of appeals in these Courts was 105 days as against 141 days in 1922. The percentage of confirmation was 54·76 as against 32·39 in the previous year. In the District and Subordinate Judges' Courts the number of appeals filed was 13,313 as against 12,548 in 1922. Subordinate Judges disposed of 5,757 appeals as against 5,946 in 1922 and the arrears in these Courts fell from 2,928 to 2,767. The average duration of contested appeals rose from 353 days in 1922 to 380 days and that of uncontested appeals fell from 260 to 255 days. District Judges disposed of 4,835 appeals as against 4,924 in 1922 and the arrears in these Courts increased from 9,108 to 10,709. The average duration of appeals was 392 days for uncontested and 344 days for contested appeals as against 278 and 377 days, respectively, in the previous year. The number of appeals from original decrees of Courts in the mufassal filed in the High Court during the year was 470 as against 462 in 1922. The Court disposed of 214 as against 212 in the previous year and the arrears rose from 911 to 1,167. The number of appeals filed against orders of the mufassal courts was 496 as against 471 in the previous year; 386 were disposed of and 621 were pending at the end of the year, the corresponding figures for 1922 being 280 and 511. The number of appeals filed against decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court was 120 as against 124 in 1922; 106 were disposed of and the arrears at the end of the year rose from 138 in 1922 to 152. The number of appeals from the City Civil Court was 147, the figure for the previous year being 68. Fifty-three appeals were disposed of as against 82 in 1922, leaving 181 pending at the end of the year as against 87 in 1922. The average duration of appeals of the above classes decided during the year was 556 days as against 463 days in 1922. The number of Letters Patent appeals (other than Original Side appeals) filed during the year was 34 as against 29 in 1922. The number disposed of was 28 as against 34 in the previous year and the arrears rose from 20 to 26. Appeals against appellate decrees received during the year amounted to 1,899 as against 1831 in 1922; 770 were decided as against 933 in the previous year and the arrears rose from 2,310 to 3,439. Appeals against appellate orders increased from 118 in 1922 to 143; the Court

Appellate Courts

Agency Courts

District and Subordinate Courts

High Court

disposed of 93 as against 133 in 1922 and the arrears rose from 141 to 191. The average duration of second appeals was 582 days as against 646 days in the previous year. The rise in the pendency of first and second appeals was attributable to the increase in institutions and to the pressure of criminal work. The number of revision petitions filed in the High Court was 1,221 as against 943 in 1922. Of these, 553 were for the revision of decisions in small cause suits as against 432 in the previous year. The arrears rose from 996 to 1,344. The number of cases referred by lower courts, by the Board of Revenue, or by the Commissioner of Income-tax was thirteen, the average for the preceding five years being fifteen. Nineteen were left pending at the end of 1922 and the Court disposed of twenty-three out of the total of thirty-two. There were 183 working days in the Courts and a first Appellate Bench, including a Bench to try Original Side and City Civil Court appeals, sat on 141 days, a second Appellate Bench on 168 days, a Miscellaneous Bench on 156 days and a Civil Admission Court on 142 days.

Miscellaneous

99. The number of insolvency petitions presented to the mufassal courts was 2,860 as against 2,610 in 1922. These courts disposed of 4,579 as against 4,420 in that year and the number pending at the end of the year rose from 1,338 to 1,663. The total amount of creditors' claims admitted was Rs. 22,04,104 and the total amount of assets distributed was Rs. 6,48,773. In the High Court 405 petitions were presented as against 276 in 1922 and the arrears rose from 1,058 to 1,375. The total amount of claims admitted during the year was Rs. 21,29,916 and the total amount paid as dividends to creditors was Rs. 3,65,189. The total number of applications for execution received in all mufassal courts, except Village Courts, was 337,480 as against 339,945 in 1922. The number pending at the end of the year was 52,926 as against 51,003 at the end of the previous year. Satisfaction in full was obtained in 15·94 per cent of the applications as against 16·68 per cent in the previous year and satisfaction in part in 7·98 per cent of the applications as against 7·60 per cent. The number of debtors imprisoned in execution was 3,482 as against 2,932 in the previous year. There was also an increase in the number of applications for execution received in the courts in the Presidency town and in the number pending at the end of the year. In the mufassal courts, other than Village and Panchayat Courts, 2,890,509 processes were executed, of which 348,807 were executed by amins and the remainder by peons, the proportion executed by peons being somewhat less than in 1922. The records of 3,854 Village Courts were inspected by the District Munsifs as against 3,631 in 1922. At the end of the year there were on the rolls of the High Court 223 advocates, 2,061 vakils and 63 attorneys, and in the mufassal courts there were 3,018 first-grade pleaders and 1,327 second-grade pleaders. During the year 279 new legal practitioners were admitted.

Finance

100. The total receipts of Civil, Criminal and Revenue Courts in the Presidency during 1923 amounted to Rs. 1,54,87,843 and the charges to Rs. 98,19,863, leaving a surplus of Rs. 56,67,980.

REGISTRATION (1923) AND COMPANIES (1923-24)

[*G.Os. No. 93, Law (Registration), dated the 21st May 1924, and No. 1903, Law (General), dated the 26th June 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Registration and Joint Stock Companies*]

Registration Administrative changes

101. The number of district charges and of District Registrars was 29 and 39, respectively, as in the preceding year. Five new sub-offices were opened as a permanent measure at Razam (Vizagapatam), Vempalle (Cuddapah), Arani (Madras-Chingleput), Valatti (Villupuram), and Bhattiprolu (Guntūr), while the appointment of a second joint sub-registrar for the Registrar's office at Vellore was made permanent. The sub-offices of Arikkod, Vandūr and Kalpakanchēri (Calicut), which had been amalgamated with other sub-offices as a temporary measure, were opened again as separate sub-offices. The experimental office at Guduru (Kurnool) was made permanent and the continuance of the temporary offices at Kosigi (Bellary) and Adirampatnam (Tanjore) for one year from 1st April 1923 and of that at Podili (Nellore) for two years from 1st December 1923 was sanctioned. As a result of the above changes, the number of sub-offices rose from 517 to 525 and the number of sub-registrars, including the seven officers borne on the establishment of the Inspector-General's office, increased from 578 to 583. To afford further convenience to the public, transfers of villages from one sub-district to another were effected in eight districts and the itinerating system of registry introduced in three more districts. The accuracy of the indexes was ensured by the daily examination of indexes by the sub-registrars and opportunities for tampering with records were reduced by the introduction of the record issue register.

Registrations

The number of registrations declined from 1,374,026 to 1,339,007, or by 2·55 per cent, the decrease occurring in all the districts except Tinnevelly, Villupuram, Calicut, Palghat and Tellicherry. The decrease was largest in Kistna (10,034), due to the fall in the price of food-grains and the stringency of the money market. The decrease occurred in every class of document except gifts compulsorily registrable and bonds and wills optionally registrable.

Value of transactions

The aggregate value of the documents registered declined by 4·92 per cent and the average value from Rs. 450 to Rs. 439. The average registration fee, on the other hand, increased from Rs. 2-2-6 to Rs. 2-2-10 in consequence of the operation of the revised table of fees throughout the year.

Searches and copies

Applications for encumbrance certificates rose from 63,149 to 72,857, but those for copies fell from 121,787 to 117,701.

Co-operative societies

Documents presented by or on behalf of co-operative societies advanced from 27,845 to 32,945 and searches made on their behalf from 5,852 to 7,023, the fees foregone being Rs. 1,38,303 as against Rs. 1,09,450.

Prosecutions

There were eight prosecutions pending at the commencement of the year and sixteen were instituted during the year, bringing up the total to 24. Of these, eight ended in conviction and seven in acquittal, while nine were left pending.

Finance

Owing to the decrease in registrations, the income from fees thereon fell from Rs. 29·60 lakhs to Rs. 29·18 lakhs; but the deficiency was made up by an increase of Rs. ·42 lakh under fees for searches. Nevertheless, the total income declined slightly from Rs. 36·41 lakhs to Rs. 36·30 lakhs, subject to a deduction of Rs. ·08 lakh on account of refunds made during each of the years 1922 and 1923. The expenditure of the department rose from Rs. 24·38 lakhs to Rs. 24·43 lakhs owing to the grant of increments to officers and establishment and to the opening of new offices. The total surplus of income over expenditure was Rs. 11·79 lakhs as against Rs. 11·95 lakhs in 1922.

Registered companies

The Indian Companies Act, 1913

102. The number of registered companies in existence rose from 706 in 1922-23 to 755. Of these, 683 possessed share capital and 72 were without. New companies numbered 96 as against 101 in the previous year and 47 companies ceased to work as against 40. The authorized, subscribed and paid-up capitals of the new companies were only 219, 34 and 19 lakhs of rupees, respectively (in round figures), as against 307,

47 and 30 lakhs of rupees in the previous year. There was an appreciable increase in the number both of "Trading and Industrial concerns" and of "Banking and Loan companies." The number of new registrations was large in Madras (21) and Coimbatore 17). Of the 96 companies newly registered, 25 were private companies formed by two or three persons with the object of conducting auction or prize chits. The largest flotations in the year were two cotton mills with an authorized capital of Rs. 50 and Rs. 20 lakhs, respectively. Two corporations for the supply of electricity to the public were established by Nattukkōttai Chetties in the Rāmnād district, each with an authorized capital of two lakhs of rupees. Of the 47 companies which were removed from the register during the year, 20 went into voluntary liquidation and 27 had ceased to do any business. Trading companies possessed 35 per cent of the total paid-up capital, while both "Banking and Loan companies" and "Mills and Presses" claimed 28 per cent. Eight companies incorporated outside British India established themselves in the Presidency, and five ceased to have a place of business within its boundaries. The number of certificated auditors rose from 36 to 38. Two prosecutions only were instituted during the year. Owing to the fall in the authorized capital of the new companies registered, receipts fell from Rs. 32,634 to Rs. 29,026, while expenditure also fell from Rs. 33,127 to Rs. 29,937. One provident society went into voluntary liquidation. Of the twelve remaining societies the majority were conducted by missionary organizations. The number of Life Assurance Companies in the Presidency was unchanged.

Provident Insurance Societies and Life Assurance Societies

Notaries Public

103. The number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public rose from 196 to 199 consequent on the appointment of the Sub-Registrars of Karaikudi, Palakollu and Kumbakōnam as Notaries Public. Operations were confined to thirty-four stations as against twenty-nine in the previous year. The total number of transactions rose from 160 to 215 with an aggregate value of Rs. 3,22,023 as against Rs. 2,27,067 in the previous year. The increase in the total number of documents dealt with occurred in all the districts except Calicut, Tellicherry, Trichinopoly, Kistna and Vizagapatam and was due to the increase in the volume of trade with the consequent fluctuations. The decrease in Calicut was attributed to the return of normal trade conditions and the set-back in Trichinopoly and Tellicherry to the depression in trade. The fall in Kistna was due to the withdrawal on payment of the bills presented in the first instance. In the South Kanara district three forged promissory notes were presented at the Imperial Bank at Mangalore. The first note was Rs. 5,000, and the forgery in connexion therewith could not be detected in consequence of the payment of the amount and the destruction of the note. The other two promissory notes which were for Rs. 1,000 each were sent for protest by the Imperial Bank at Mangalore to the Registrar (Notary Public) who found on inquiry that they were forged. The alleged accused was traced and charged by the police, but was discharged by the Sub-Magistrate as the offence against him could not be proved. The District Magistrate has, however, ordered a revision of the case. Fees realized amounted to Rs. 926-3-0 as against Rs. 634-8-0 in 1922-23, and a sum of Rs. 55-7-3 was expended by Notary Public as against Rs. 46 in the previous year. Rs 871-3-9 were remitted to the treasury during the official year, leaving a balance of Rs. 5-8-0 to be remitted in the current year. Additional charges amounting to Rs. 1-9-0 were incurred for making a seal for the newly appointed Notary Public at Palakollu. No office of Notary Public was inspected during the year by the District Judges under rule 4 of Notarial Rules.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1923-24 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Co-operative Societies*]

General

104. As in the previous year there were 22 Assistant Registrars' sections. In addition the Co-operative officer in charge of the Agency division was on its abolition retained under the designation of Extra Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vizagapatam, and remained in charge of co-operative work in all the Agency tracts except Bhadrāchalam division which was transferred to the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Cocanada. A scheme for the reorganization of the upper controlling staff, designed to replace the Assistant Registrars borrowed from the cadre of Deputy Collectors by a less costly agency and to make the Co-operative Department self-contained and self-sufficient while affording adequate prospects for each grade and class of officers, was under the consideration of Government during the year. Ten gentlemen were appointed as Honorary Assistant Registrars during the year, making a total of 85 at the end of the year. In November 1923 the appointments of a portion of the subordinate staff, which up till then had been only temporary, were confirmed by Government. The cost of the working of the Co-operative Societies Act during the year was Rs. 6,28,743, a sum equivalent to ·75 per cent of the working capital of societies : the cost in the previous year was equivalent to ·87 per cent. In most districts in the Presidency the consolidation of existing societies and the development of the movement by the formation of new societies made satisfactory progress during the year. In the Bellary and Anantapur districts, owing to an adverse season, the expansion was small and in Chittoor the attention of the co-operative staff was devoted mainly to the consolidation and rectification of bad societies. In the districts in which a marked expansion took place this result was achieved without detriment to the work of consolidation. There were 8,443 societies of all classes at the beginning of the year. During the year 1,416 societies were registered and the registration of 75 societies was cancelled. Of the societies registered during the year, 1,160 were agricultural societies, 225 were non-agricultural societies, 28 were local supervising unions and 3 were district federations of local unions. There were at the end of the year 9,785 societies in all, including one the registration of which had been cancelled in the previous year and restored upon appeal to Government. At the end of the year there were 616,628 members in 9,505 societies (excluding local supervising unions and federations of unions) giving an average of 65 members to a society as in the previous year. The total membership, however, represented less than 1·46 per cent of the total population of the Presidency. The total working capital of all societies increased from Rs. 711·59 lakhs to Rs. 839·27 lakhs during the year ; the paid-up share capital from Rs. 95·42 lakhs to Rs. 114·50 lakhs ; the deposits from individuals from Rs. 253·71 lakhs to Rs. 290·05 lakhs and the reserve fund of societies from Rs. 31·73 lakhs to Rs. 38·35 lakhs. The amount of loans advanced by Government and outstanding against societies at the end of the year was Rs. 7·88 lakhs as against Rs. 2·90 lakhs at the end of the previous year. Excluding the amount invested by one co-operative society in another, the total capital employed in the movement at the end of the year was Rs. 421 lakhs as against Rs 359 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The large proportion represented by individual deposits (Rs. 290·05 lakhs) showed the continued confidence of the public in the soundness of the co-operative movement. Of the Rs. 7·88 lakhs due to Government by societies, loans to building societies accounted for Rs. 3·99 lakhs and loans to societies in charge of the Labour Department, for Rs. 3·89 lakhs. There was no change in the number of financing banks (33). During the year a substantial addition was made to the sums invested in the

financing banks by local boards and municipalities and, as a result, the Madras Central Urban Bank had to invest a considerable amount outside the Presidency in other provincial co-operative banks. There were 272 local supervising unions at the end of the year, twenty-eight being newly registered, and in most districts the formation of local unions kept pace with the organization of primary societies. The number of district federations of unions rose from three to six during the year. The Madras Provincial Co-operative Union did useful propagandist work during the year. The propagandist union at Masulipatam issued a co-operative periodical in Telugu (the *Sahakari*). There was a small increase in joint purchase by primary societies and in joint sale by trading societies. An interesting feature of the year's work was the development in the organization of labour on co-operative lines. The total number of societies organized for the purpose of finding work for labourers rose from nine to seventeen in spite of the opposition aroused in certain quarters and works to the value of Rs. 1,59,177 were executed by them. Another feature of special interest was the formation in the Tanjore district of four societies for the purpose of carrying out "kudimaramat" work which is generally neglected to the ryots' own detriment. There was a marked increase in the number and activity of co-operative house building societies due to the financial assistance furnished by Government. A few primary societies for weavers and a central society were started in Vellore. As a result of a change in system many societies prepared their own financial statements with the assistance of the local unions where necessary, instead of waiting, as in previous years, till the departmental auditor arrived, to complete the audit and the high percentage of such societies in certain districts showed that in these districts societies are rapidly acquiring the business capacity necessary for ascertaining their own financial position.

Working of societies
Provincial and Central Banks

105. The by-laws of the Madras Central Urban Bank were amended during the year so as to enable central banks to take additional shares in order that the redemption of preference shares might not affect the borrowing capacity of the bank. The maximum limit up to which a central bank can take shares was raised to Rs. 30,000. The total share capital held by central banks in the Madras Central Urban Bank at the end of the year was Rs. 4,48,600 as compared with Rs. 3,34,000 at the end of the previous year. The policy of buying in preference shares in the Madras Central Urban Bank was continued during the year. Further progress was made in the transfer to district central banks of the loans originally given direct to primary societies by the Madras Central Urban Bank. The latter gave loans to the extent of Rs. 34·01 lakhs during the year as compared with Rs. 22·96 lakhs in the previous year. The chief reason for the large increase in transactions was the reduction in the rate of interest charged by the bank from 7½ to 7 per cent. The total loans due to it by district central banks at the end of the year was Rs. 78·54 lakhs as against Rs. 67·79 lakhs at the end of the previous year. In spite of the reduction of the interest on loans and deposits the working capital of the central bank increased from Rs. 85·45 lakhs to Rs. 91·60 lakhs and the net profit from Rs. 1·37 lakhs to Rs. 1·52 lakhs. The total working capital of all the financing banks (including the Provincial Bank) rose from Rs. 333·27 lakhs at the beginning to Rs. 387 lakhs at the end of the year. The money borrowed by all the financing banks from outside the movement amounted on 30th June 1924 to Rs. 212·35 lakhs as compared with Rs. 183·87 lakhs at the end of the previous year. As usual the Imperial Bank of India rendered great assistance to the movement, particularly in allowing overdrafts to the financing banks at a flat rate of 6½ per cent. The money deposited in the financing banks by local boards and municipalities, abkāri and jail contractors and employees and contractors of local boards amounted at the end of the year to Rs. 67·39 lakhs as compared with Rs. 37·56 lakhs at the end of the previous year. All the district central banks reduced their rate of interest on loans to primary societies. The book profit and

the net divisible profit of all the financing banks including the Provincial Bank) amounted to Rs. 7·37 lakhs and Rs. 5·88 lakhs for the year as compared with Rs. 5·64 lakhs and Rs. 5·40 lakhs, respectively, for the previous year. In regard to principal due to the financing banks the percentage of balance to demand ranged from 1·35 in the Srivilliputtūr Central Bank to 57·69 in the Chittoor Central Bank. In the large majority of banks the percentage was under 40. The number of agricultural credit societies increased by 1,003 during the year to 8,103, of which 26 were on a basis of limited liability. The total number of members of agricultural societies of all classes increased during the year from 384,957 (audited figures) to 454,033, of whom 347,895 were agriculturists, 59,747 were non-agriculturists and 46,391 were partly dependent on agriculture for their livelihood. Of the members depending entirely on agriculture 36,168 were non-cultivating landholders, 230,798 were cultivating landholders, 50,908 were tenants and 30,021 were field labourers. The marked increase in membership among Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras showed that the movement was making good progress amongst the depressed classes. During the year the total working capital of all agricultural societies increased from Rs. 2,65,39,957 to Rs. 3,14,97,536 and the paid-up share capital from Rs. 28,74,138 to Rs. 35,68,127. Deposits made by individuals rose from Rs. 15,53,087 to Rs. 16,69,177 while loans from financing banks increased from Rs 2,04,91,263 to Rs. 2,42,30,373. The increase of Rs. 1,16,090 in deposits, of which members contributed Rs. 91,836 as compared with Rs. 23,547 in the previous year, was an indication of the growing appreciation by members of rural societies of the thrift aspect of the movement. The total divisible profit earned by societies during the year amounted to Rs. 4,71,557 as against Rs. 4,06,067 in the previous year. Collections again deteriorated during the year, the percentage of balance to demand under capital having risen steadily from 23·98 for the year 1919-20 to 41·69 in 1923-24. In regard to current interest the percentage rose from 21·56 to 34·73 during the same period. The percentage under arrear interest also increased as compared with the previous year. This unpunctuality in the repayment of loans was attributable, apart from special causes, to inefficient supervision on the part of a large number of local unions. This was evidenced by the fact that large variations occurred between union areas in regions where economic and climatic conditions were practically uniform. The practice of fictitious payments was at one time prevalent in agricultural credit societies but, as a result of systematic attempts to root out this evil, cases of this kind were comparatively rare. The number of agricultural societies for purchase or purchase and sale in existence at the end of the year was 77 as in the previous year, three new societies taking the place of three societies the registration of which was cancelled. Forty-seven societies earned a divisible profit of Rs. 10,221 and 30 societies incurred a loss of Rs. 38,208. There were four agricultural societies for production and sale at the end of the year. Of these, two worked at a net profit of Rs. 2,560 and the remaining two at a loss of Rs. 14,783. Agricultural credit societies effected joint purchases to the extent of Rs. 1,93,256 with an estimated saving of Rs. 12,484 to members as compared with Rs. 1,76,450 and Rs. 7,729, respectively, in the previous year. As regards joint sales, the transactions amounted to Rs. 53,972 with a gain to members of Rs. 1,414 as against Rs. 33,788 and Rs. 1,392, respectively, in the previous year. There were 122 agricultural societies of other descriptions at the end of the year. These included 112 societies consisting of members of the depressed classes and having for their main object the purchase of land and house-sites. Of the remaining ten societies, one was an irrigation society, four were societies for "kudimaramat" work, three were crop loan unions and two were building societies. The number of non-agricultural credit societies rose from 805 at the beginning of the year to 955 at the end of the year. Of the 955 societies 764 were on a basis of limited, and 191 on a basis of unlimited, liability. Substantial progress was made during the year in these societies. The membership increased from 120,588 to 138,530, the paid-up share capital from Rs. 27,63,114

Agricultural societies

Non-agricultural societies

to Rs. 33,79,065, the deposits from individuals from Rs. 51,01,668 to Rs. 58,49,827 and the working capital from Rs. 98,08,990 to Rs. 1,17,80,415. The net divisible profit for the year was Rs. 4,62,140 as compared with Rs. 3,84,692 for the previous year. The fact that deposits by non-members amounted to Rs. 31,30,009 indicated the extent of the confidence placed by the outside public in the financial soundness and good management of these societies. There was a considerable improvement in the collection of arrear interest and a slight improvement in current interest but in recoveries towards principal there was a slight decline. All limited liability societies which accepted deposits exceeding a total of Rs. 20,000 were required to maintain fluid resources in respect of those deposits in the form, and according to the standard, prescribed by Government. Wage-earners' societies, i.e., societies for Government servants, municipal employees, factory employees, etc., were among the most successful of the non-agricultural credit societies. In addition to the ordinary activities of a co-operative urban bank the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Employees' Society and one other society undertook fidelity guarantee business on behalf of its members. There were three credit societies exclusively for women. At the end of the year there were 139 non-agricultural societies for purchase, purchase and sale, production or production and sale as compared with 127 at the beginning of the year. Of the 33 societies registered during the year, seven were urban stores, three were for the purchase of cotton and the sale of hand-spun yarn, six were for the supply of stationery to students, one was for the production and sale of khaddar cloth, one for the preparation and sale of ayurvedic medicines, one for the purchase of raw materials for basket making, one for the manufacture of slates and thirteen were purchase and sale societies for weavers. The number of co-operative stores at the end of the year was the same as at the beginning, namely 85, but there was a satisfactory increase in the value of the stock sold. Weavers' societies increased in number from 35 to 43 during the year. There was a substantial increase in the value of the stock purchased and sold and the previous years' losses were partly recouped. The number of non-agricultural societies of other descriptions rose from 34 to 72 during the year. Of these, 47 were building societies, 17 were labour societies, 4 were printing societies, 2 were co-operative hostels for students and 1 was a milk-supply society. The remaining society was a college society. Among the nine labour societies in existence at the beginning of the year, the Puttur society (South Kanara) obtained contracts from local boards and executed work to the value of Rs. 9,118 ; the Amalāpuram Labour Union did work to the value of Rs. 1,338 ; the Tanjore Labour Union undertook the supply and spreading of gravel for the District Board and did work to the value of Rs. 25,000 ; the Pattukottah Labour Union did work to the value of Rs. 28,502 ; the Arantangi Labour Union supplied gravel to the local board and did work to the value of Rs. 44,000. The Madras Salt Loaders' Co-operative Society continued to work well, the wages earned for work on contract amounting to Rs. 41,334.

Miscellaneous

106. At the end of the year there were 1,235 societies composed wholly or mainly of Ādi-Drāvidas or Ādi-Āndhras as compared with 904 such societies at the end of the previous year and the total number of Ādi-Drāvida and Ādi-Andhra members of societies of all classes increased from 52,856 to 62,956. Of the 1,235 societies, 690 were organized by, and in charge of, the Labour Department. Societies exclusively for scavengers and sweepers increased from 32 to 35. The number of societies in the Agency tracts rose from 13 to 16 during the year. The reserve fund of all societies amounted to Rs. 38,34,994 as compared with Rs. 31,73,416 in the previous year. The Madras Central Urban Bank invested the whole, and a few district central banks a part, of their reserve in Government paper. The total reserve fund of all societies increased by 20·85 per cent, while their total working capital increased by 17·95 per cent during the year. The amount contributed by the societies for their own supervision continued to increase and the amount spent during the year under this

head was equivalent to 30·47 per cent of the amount spent by Government in working the Co-operative Societies Act. In the Presidency as a whole there was a substantial decrease in the number of civil suits filed as compared with the previous year. There was a large increase in the number of arbitration references in many districts owing to the systematic overhauling of bad and indifferent societies. The number of applications made to District Collectors for execution under the Land Revenue Recovery Act of arbitration rewards was almost double that of the previous year. Four cases of misappropriation by office-bearers of societies were taken to court and ended in conviction. Model by-laws for audit unions, central weavers' societies and land mortgage banks were drawn up during the year and the model by-laws for other types of societies were revised. A few exhibits were sent to the British Empire Exhibition by co-operative societies in the Presidency and at the Exhibition in Bellary in August 1923 a first-class certificate for "cumblis" was awarded for "cumblis" produced by the Kuduthani Cumbli Weavers' Society. The annual Madras Provincial Conference was held in December 1923 and there were twelve district conferences. The sympathetic attitude of the general public towards the co-operative movement and the cordial relationship between non-official co-operators and the Co-operative Department remained unchanged.

LOCAL BOARD ADMINISTRATION (1923–24)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—District and Local Boards*]

107. The number of district boards remained the same (24) but the total number of the members sitting on them fell from 972 to 970. All the district boards except the Nilgiri District Board were presided over by non-officials, eight of whom were elected. At the end of the year 950 members were taking part in the deliberations of district boards in the Presidency. Of these, 125 were ex-officio, 230 nominated by the Government and the remaining 595 elected by taluk boards as against 125, 200 and 599, respectively, in the previous year. The district boards held 232 meetings in the course of the year. One additional taluk board was constituted in the Rāmnād district and the number of taluk boards rose from 125 to 126. The presidents of 115 boards were non-officials elected by the taluk boards concerned and of the remainder all except two were presided over by non-officials. The sanctioned strength of the taluk boards rose from 2,437 to 2,702. The actual number of members at the end of the year on the taluk boards in the Presidency was 2,433, of whom 627 were nominated and 1,806 elected as against 692 and 1,710, respectively, in the previous year. Elections were held for 137 seats, of which 94 were contested, 29·9 per cent of the registered voters attending the poll as against 35·7 per cent in 1922–23. The taluk boards held 1,163 meetings during the year. The number of union boards in important villages fell from 552 to 507 owing to the abolition of certain boards and the reconstitution of others as village panchayats. The actual number of members on the 31st March 1924 on these boards was 5,264, of whom 10 were ex-officio, 1,199 nominated and 4,055 elected.

General

District boards

Taluk boards

Union boards

108. Under the Local Boards Act, 1920, the levy of land cess at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the annual rent value is obligatory. An additional cess up to a maximum of 3 pies can be levied for the purposes of the district board and a similar cess for purposes of the taluk board. Such additional cess was levied by 15 district boards and 87 taluk boards at varying rates. The levy of profession and companies taxes is also authorized by the Act. The former was levied during the year by 62 taluk boards and the latter by 33 taluk boards. Tolls upon carriages, carts and animals were collected in all the districts. House tax was

Finance—Receipts

collected in all unions. The Elementary Education Act, 1920, authorizes the levy of a tax for the expansion of elementary education and 57 taluk boards availed themselves of this power. The cash balance under local funds at the beginning of the year was Rs. 64·92 lakhs. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 358·99 lakhs as against Rs. 337·75 lakhs in 1922–23. The increase is mainly due to extraordinary transactions under "Deposits and Advances" account. The grants received from provincial funds aggregated Rs. 88·37 lakhs as against Rs. 82·26 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum, Rs. 7·06 lakhs were given in aid of the general resources of local boards, Rs. 25·03 lakhs for trunk roads, Rs. 38·60 lakhs for education and Rs. 2·33 lakhs for hospitals and dispensaries. A sum of Rs. 50,000 was given as a special grant to the Nilgiri District Board for the improvement of its communications besides the usual grant of Rs. 87,000.

Expenditure

109. The total expenditure of local boards was Rs. 332·38 lakhs as against Rs. 337·89 lakhs in 1922–23 and the year closed with a balance of Rs. 91·53 lakhs. The outlay on communications was Rs. 106·13 lakhs, of which Rs. 38·35 lakhs were met from Government grants, the outlay in the previous year being Rs. 103·95 lakhs and the Government grant over Rs. 17 lakhs. The length of the new roads constructed was 110 miles and the total mileage maintained at the end of the year was 26,253 of which 3,139 miles were trunk roads, towards the maintenance of which the Government contribute up to a maximum rate of Rs. 500 per mile. In 1922-23, sixty-seven miles of new road were constructed and 25,696 miles, of which 3,040 miles were trunk roads, were maintained. At the close of the year, a Sanskrit college, 163 secondary schools and 9,400 elementary schools were maintained by the local boards. A few sessional schools were also maintained. The total attendance at all the schools, other than sessional schools, was 562,565 pupils as against 538,100 in 1922–23. The total expenditure of local boards on education was Rs. 70·37 lakhs towards which provincial funds contributed Rs. 38·13 lakhs, while the income from fees and other receipts was Rs. 13·70 lakhs. The net outlay from local funds was thus Rs. 18·54 lakhs as against Rs. 21·12 lakhs in the previous year. The number of hospitals maintained by local boards was 105 and the number of dispensaries 329, or 15 dispensaries more than in the previous year. The cost of their maintenance amounted to Rs. 19·54 lakhs ; 19,250 in-patients and 4,952,933 out-patients were treated. The number of vaccinators employed by the local boards rose from 480 in 1922–23 to 483 ; they performed successful vaccinations on 1,125,697 persons, or 29·7 per mille of the population. This was a distinct improvement on the work of the previous year when almost the same staff performed only 867,338 successful vaccinations. The total expenditure on preventive medicine including sanitation and water-supply amounted to Rs. 15·18 lakhs as against Rs. 15·52 lakhs in the previous year.

Communications

Education

Medical relief

Vaccination

Sanitation and preventive medicine

Railways

110. The only district boards which possess open railways are those of Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Salem, Kistna and Tinnevelly. The total length of the lines was 275·17 miles. The total capital outlay on them was Rs. 148·76 lakhs. The gross traffic earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway increased by Rs. 0·61 lakh to Rs. 15·82 lakhs and the working expenses fell by Rs. 1·69 lakhs to Rs. 10·11 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 0·46 lakh was paid to provincial funds towards the loan advanced by Government. The profit derived from the working of the railway was Rs. 5·71 lakhs, or 8·5 per cent of the capital outlay as against 5 per cent in 1922–23. During the year a sum of Rs. 4·49 lakhs was spent on works of a capital nature and Rs. 2·47 lakhs were appropriated to the General Account. The balance in favour of the railway cess fund at the end of the year was Rs. 30·37 lakhs in investments and Rs. 4·57 lakhs in cash. The gross earnings of the Pōdanūr-Pollāchi Railway were Rs. 3·92 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 2·10 lakhs. The net profit on the working of the railway was Rs. 1·82 lakhs, or 12·98 per cent of the capital outlay as against 13·6 per cent in 1922–23. The railway cess fund in the district closed with a balance of Rs. 9·30 lakhs in investments and Rs. 3·24 lakhs in cash. The gross earnings of the Tenali-Rēpalle Railway in Guntūr

were Rs. 2·09 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 1·04 lakhs. The net earnings amounted to Rs. 1·05 lakhs, or 6·9 per cent of the capital outlay as against 6·6 per cent in 1922–23. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 6·98 lakhs in investments and Rs. 0·05 lakh in cash. The gross earnings of the Salem-Suramangalam Railway were Rs. 1·30 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 0·80 lakh. The net earnings a nounted to Rs. 0·50 lakh or 9·6 per cent of the capital outlay as against 8·9 per cent in 1922–23. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 8·55 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1·16 lakhs in cash. In Kistna the gross earnings of the Bezwada-Masulipatam Railway were Rs. 8·25 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 3·71 lakhs. The net earnings of the line amounted to Rs. 4·54 lakhs, or 19·8 per cent of the capital outlay as against 19·3 per cent in 1922–23. The closing balance of the railway cess fund was Rs. 22·93 lakhs in investments and Rs. 3·56 lakhs in cash. The Board had to repay Government at the end of the year Rs. 4·96 lakhs out of the loan taken for the construction of the railway. The gross earnings of the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendūr Railway which was opened for traffic in February 1923 amounted to Rs. 4·32 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 2·23 lakhs. The net earnings of the line was Rs. 2·09 lakhs, or 8·5 per cent of the capital outlay. A sum of Rs. 3·58 lakhs was spent during the year on the construction of the railway and in repairing the damage caused to it by the floods in December 1923. The balance to the credit of the railway fund was Rs. 5·50 lakhs in investments and Rs. 1·43 lakhs in cash. At the close of the year this Board had to repay Rs. 14·94 lakhs to Government and Rs. 5·50 lakhs to the Tanjore District Board towards the loans taken by it for railway construction.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL (1923–24)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

General

111. The total number of municipal councils remained the same as in the previous year, viz., 80. The total sanctioned number of seats rose from 1,724 to 1,734. The number actually occupied at the end of the year was 1,677. Of the members, 2 were ex-officio, 408 nominated by the Government and the remaining 1,267 elected by the rate-payers. There were elected members in all the municipalities except Anantapur. In Anantapur, as the councillors failed to take the oath of allegiance to the Crown within the period prescribed by law, the Council ceased to exist on the 24th November 1922. It was reconstituted from the 1st February 1923. On its reconstitution all the councillors were appointed by the Government for a period of eighteen months. The proportion of Indian to European and Anglo-Indian members remained almost stationary. Forty-eight councils consisted entirely of Indian members as against forty-six in the previous year. The councils held 2,283 meetings in all, or 31 more than in the previous year, and 257 meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum. The average attendance of councillors at each meeting was 59 per cent of the total strength as against 60 per cent in 1922–23.

Finance—Receipts

112. The opening balance was Rs. 25·64 lakhs. Current receipts, excluding the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 138·43 lakhs as against Rs. 125·17 lakhs in 1922–23. Though the difference was largely due to extraordinary items such as loans there was a substantial increase in the general revenues by over Rs. 4 lakhs. Of the receipts Rs. 54·18 lakhs were derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 2–2–8 as against the Presidency average of Rs. 2–0–4 in 1922–23. The grants from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 10·62 lakhs as against Rs. 12·13 lakhs in 1922–23 ; of this, Rs. 7·44 lakhs were for education, Rs. 1·70 lakhs for trunk roads and Rs. 0·41 lakh for medical relief. The increase in the grant for trunk roads was due to the payment in advance during 1923–24 of three-fourths of the maximum grant admissible to local bodies in addition to the usual grants. Loans

Loans

amounting to Rs. 7·60 lakhs were advanced by the Government as against Rs. 3·75 lakhs in the previous year. The Madura municipal council took a loan of Rs. 4·30 lakhs for drainage works and the Ootacamund municipal council Rs. 2·00 lakhs for the lighting of the town with electricity and Rs 11,000 for the construction of rat-proof godowns Seven other councils borrowed smaller sums for various purposes.

Expenditure

Communications

Water-supply and drainage

113. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 133·75 lakhs. The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 23·73 lakhs, of which Rs. 10·79 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of roads and Rs. 8·35 lakhs on lighting. The Public Works Department had under execution water-works in four municipal towns, improvements and extensions to the existing water-works in four other municipalities and drainage schemes in three towns. In three towns the municipal staff was carrying out improvements to the water-supply. Water-supply schemes for two towns, schemes of improvements to existing water-works in two municipalities, a drainage scheme for one town and a scheme of improvements to drainage in another were sanctioned for execution, but all of these, except the two schemes of improvements to water-supply, have been deferred on account of financial considerations. The total expenditure under Water-supply and drainage including the capital charges was Rs. 21·35 lakhs, of which Rs. 0·08 lakh was met from Provincial grants and Rs. 4·30 lakhs from loans advanced by the Government. Municipal councils maintained 57 hospitals and 56 dispensaries. The number of in-patients treated was 27,018 and the number of out-patients 2,073,960. The total cost of medical relief was Rs. 8·94 lakhs. There were 1,257 elementary schools maintained by municipal councils, or 97 more than in the previous year. The number of municipal secondary schools increased from 37 to 45. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 11·34 lakhs, of which Rs. 5·78 lakhs were met from Government grants and Rs. 4·95 lakhs from municipal funds The total expenditure on secondary education was Rs. 7·22 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·84 lakhs were met from Provincial funds, and the net debit to municipal funds was Rs. 2·27 lakhs. The expenditure in 1922–23 under this head was Rs. 6·64 lakhs, Rs. 1·59 lakhs being provided from Government funds and Rs. 1·40 lakhs from municipal funds. The expenditure under preventive medicine including conservancy was Rs. 24·45 lakhs. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 30·32 lakhs. The public debt outstanding against municipalities rose from Rs. 38·29 lakhs to Rs. 42·67 lakhs.

Medical relief

Education

Preventive medicine and sanitation

Debt

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS (1923-24)

[*Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for the year 1923–24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

Finance

114. The total receipts for the year, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 93,43,136 as compared with Rs. 97,57,369 last year. Revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 53,95,037 as against Rs. 53,71,938 in 1922–23, an increase of Rs. 23,099. Towards this income municipal taxes contributed Rs. 39,90,685 and municipal fees and miscellaneous receipts Rs. 14,04,352 as against Rs. 40,34,853 and Rs. 13,37,085, respectively, in 1922–23. The incidence of taxation (including tolls) per head of the population was Rs. 7–9–2 as against Rs. 7–12–3 in the preceding year. The Corporation received from Government during the year a free grant of Rs. 2,00,000 and a loan of Rs. 2,00,000 for improving the water-supply and the drainage systems. A loan of Rs. 5,00,000 was also received from Government for the Mambalam Town Planning scheme. The debt at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 138·79 lakhs and the sinking fund relating to the various loans, exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments, was Rs. 39,40,635, of which Rs. 39,23,700 were invested in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures, and a sum of Rs. 16,935 was held in cash. Payments amounting to Rs. 5,28,187 were

made during the year towards the repayment of, and as interest on, the Government instalment loans of Rs. 55 lakhs.

115. The total sum expended on works during the year amounted to Rs. 33·94 lakhs as against Rs. 31·54 lakhs in 1922–23. Of this sum Rs. 16·12 lakhs were spent on new works, Rs. 16·00 lakhs on repairs and Rs. 1·82 lakhs on establishment and miscellaneous charges. Rupees eighty-four thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven were spent during the year on general improvements in the communications of the city, including Rs. 68,610 on the construction of a bridge over the railway in Police Commissioner's Office Road, while Rs. 6·97 lakhs were spent on repairs as against Rs. 7·02 lakhs in the previous year. One mile, 7 furlongs and 101 yards of unmetalled roads were metalled for the first time, and 50·50 miles of roads were re-formed as against 62·22 miles last year. The cost of re-forming the roads was Rs. 3,518 per mile as against Rs. 4,524 per mile in 1922–23, the saving being entirely due to a fall in the price of metal. Seven miles, 2 furlongs, 114 yards and 2 feet of road were tarred for the first time, and 4 miles, 1 furlong, 155 yards and 2 feet were re-tarred. One furlong, 36 yards and 3 feet were laid with asphalt macadam. Rupees five lakhs thirty-seven thousand and seventy were expended on new buildings and acquisition of land for the Mambalam scheme, and Rs. 56,621 on repairs to buildings as compared with Rs. 71,690 and Rs. 30,937, respectively, in 1922–23. Fourteen bathing fountains were constructed during the year ; alterations and improvements were made to the Model Milch Depot in the Basin Bridge Road and to the sheep slaughter-house in Perambūr, and five wells were constructed in the Chetput and Robinson Park Dhoby Khanas. Land was acquired in Egmore for the Pudupet hutting ground, and the construction of the main buildings of the model lines for conservancy coolies was completed. The construction of an infectious diseases hospital at the old Fiji emigration depot was in progress and the re-construction of the evening bazaar near the Moore Market was completed. During the year the Mambalam scheme under the Town Planning Act was undertaken by the Corporation. The Mambalam scheme covers an area of about 1,200 acres and the town planning of the portion known as Eastern Mambalam comprising about 600 acres in extent was first taken up and about 430 acres of land were acquired. During the year the limits of the Madras City were extended by the addition of nearly 2 square miles. A sum of Rs. 6·07 lakhs was expended on new works during the year and Rs. 4·10 lakhs on maintenance. The revised restricted programme was completed and considerable progress was made with the urgently required drainage works. The Napier Park, Ice House Road and Purasawakam pumping stations were completed and 145 house connexions to the sewers were made during the year. Expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 3·80 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6·64 lakhs last year while Rs. 3·74 lakhs were spent on maintenance work during the year as against Rs. 3·25 lakhs in 1922–23. The quantity of water supplied during the year was 5,476·20 millions of gallons, which is equivalent to nearly 28·7 gallons per head per day; the maximum average daily consumption per head in any month was 32·7 gallons and the minimum was 24·5 gallons. During the year the waste detection staff examined 18,961 houses and brought to notice as many as 1,792 defects in the service pipes. Six hundred and twenty-six new services were laid by licensed plumbers and 2,371 were repaired, cleaned, altered or extended in the year. The total number of house service connexions in the city on the 31st March 1924 was 32,501. On the 31st March 1924 there were 1,575 meters on house services in use, metering having been extended as rapidly as possible and as fast as funds would allow. During the year 6 furlongs and $36\frac{2}{3}$ yards of pipes were removed, cleaned and relaid and 1 mile and 5 furlongs and 75 yards of new mains were laid as compared with 3 miles, 1 furlong and $88\frac{1}{4}$ yards last year. Fourteen valves, 371 stop-cocks, 39 hydrants and 146 meters were also fixed. One hundred and fifty-two fountains, 4 cattle troughs and 14 bathing fountains were erected and 120 fountains and 4 cattle troughs were

Works

Communications

Buildings

Drainage

Water-supply

removed during the year. At the end of the year, there were 2,014 fountains, 77 cattle troughs and 47 bathing fountains. The quantity of water taken out of Red Hills lake during the year was 1,051,532,577 c.ft. as against 919,933,794 c.ft. in the previous year. Towards the end of December 1923 it became apparent that the year's rainfall had proved a failure and thus the prospect of getting any considerable quantity of water into the Red Hills tank was quite remote. All possible measures were therefore taken to conserve the water in the lake and also to reduce consumption in the city.

Education

116. A sum of Rs. 2,02,400 was paid from Corporation funds as contribution towards the Education Fund. The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 1·87 lakhs as against Rs. 1·76 lakhs last year. Three schools were opened during the year in buildings constructed by the Corporation and two girls' schools in rented buildings, while the two Government Muhammadan girls' schools were taken over by the Corporation from Government in April 1923. The total number of schools under the management of the Corporation thus rose from 35 to 42 including the branch school at Nochikuppam. The number of pupils on the rolls of the Corporation schools was 8,727 (6,731 boys and 1,996 girls) on the 31st March 1924 as compared with 6,215 (5,281 boys and 934 girls) on the last day of the previous year. There were 234 male teachers and 19 female teachers employed on the 31st March 1924, of whom nearly all were qualified. Thirty-three of the schools were held in Corporation buildings and nine in rented ones. Thirty schools provided manual training in wood work and three schools gave practical instruction in tailoring. Night schools were held in twenty-five of the Corporation schools, seven of which were provided with electric lights for the convenience of those attending them. The medical inspection of boys attending the Corporation schools was conducted by the medical officers in charge of the twelve Corporation dispensaries.

Sanitation and medical services

117. Expenditure on sanitation amounted to Rs. 8·10 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·96 lakhs last year. The usual contribution of Rs. 20,000 for hospitals was paid to the Provincial Funds during the year and contributions amounting to Rs. 19,104 were made to other hospitals and dispensaries. The maintenance of the Corporation hospitals and dispensaries cost Rs. 2·09 lakhs as against Rs. 1·54 lakhs in the previous year. The total number of patients treated was 312,283 as compared with 265,434 last year.

Vaccination and registration of births and deaths

The expenditure on vaccination and registration of births and deaths increased from Rs. 38,737 to Rs. 47,423 during the year. The total number of persons vaccinated was 36,629 as compared with 51,863 in the previous year.

Anti-malarial operations

Operations for the prevention of malaria were continued during the year and several insanitary tanks and anti-malarial drains were cleaned.

Miscellaneous

118. On the 31st March 1924, there were 6,421 electric lights and 1,058 oil lamps in use in the city. Expenditure under this head was Rs. 3·99 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 1·98 lakhs was spent on maintenance. Expenditure on the public parks during the year amounted to Rs. 37,879 as against Rs. 30,182 in the previous year. The cost of maintaining the fire engines was Rs. 41,810 as compared with Rs. 35,762 last year. There were 85 fire calls as against 69 in the previous year, but only in 25 cases was there any work for the engines.

MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1923-24)

Military Auxiliary Force

119. The strength of the twelve Auxiliary Force units in the Madras district on 31st March 1924 was 6,209 all ranks, including 2,527 in the reserve. During the year under review progress was made in the formation of a Light Motor Boat Patrol at Cochin. The Kolar Gold Fields Battalion, Auxiliary Force India), formed a Cadet Company of 79 and good progress was made in the training of this Company. Nearly 70 per cent of the members of the Auxiliary Force attended the annual camps. Internal security and defence post schemes were rehearsed in conjunction with regular troops. Very satisfactory progress was made by all units and a very keen spirit was exhibited by all ranks.

Indian Territorial Force

120. The 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Battalions, 3rd Madras Regiment, carried out very successfully their periodical and recruits training. No difficulty was found in keeping these Battalions up to their authorized strength. The 5th (Madras) Battalion, University Training Corps, continued to be successful. Recruiting for this unit is very satisfactory and at their annual camp in Bangalore there were very few absentees. During the year under review all Indian Territorial Force units were inspected by the General Officer Commanding, Madras District, who was impressed by the keenness and enthusiasm displayed by all ranks.

MARINE (1923-24)

[*Reports of the Madras Port Trust and of the Madras Port Department for the year 1923-24 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Port Trusts*]

Madras Port Trust

Finance

121. The gross receipts of the harbour under taking during the year proved to be the largest on record and amounted to Rs. 29,84,285 and showed an increase of Rs. 1,80,034 when compared with the receipts of the previous year. This increase was, however, largely due to the inclusion, in revenue, of interest amounting to Rs. 1,63,819 derived from Government securities purchased with the proceeds of capital loans. Expenses also showed an increase, which was almost entirely due to payments of interest and sinking funds. The net result of working for the year was a profit of Rs. 1,64,582 as compared with Rs. 3,33,659 in 1922-23. A sinking fund was raised for the repayment of the loan raised in London in the previous year. The outstanding amount of loans due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 1,46,59,610 at the end of the year.

Works

122. Some progress was made in the collection of materials for the new deep-water quay which it is proposed to construct at a cost of Rs. 12,00,000 and also in the construction of a new breakwater which, it is estimated, will cost Rs. 9,00,000. The low-level tank which forms part of a new fresh water reservoir was completed. Two berths were equipped with 8-inch pipes for bunkering oil-burning vessels ; the boilers of the hydraulic power house and the boilers of the tug *Thruster* were converted to burn oil. The suction dredger *Madras* worked for 200 days during the year, of which 103 were spent on maintenance dredging and 97 days in deepening the harbour to 32 feet. This boat dredged 110,268 tons of mud at a cost of 24·941 annas per ton including interest and cost of depreciation.

Traffic

123. A further record was reached in the total tonnage of imports and exports, which amounted to 984,715 tons as compared with the previous record of 975,883 tons in 1922-23. Imports increased slightly from 758,928 tons in 1922-23 to 759,578 tons, but the tonnage of exports was the largest on record, being 225,137 tons. Of the total traffic 963,106 tons were sea-borne as against 975,100 tons in the previous year, the difference between the total traffic and the amount sea-borne consisting almost entirely of rail-borne coal. Imports of rice showed little variation as compared with those of the previous year. Imports of coal showed an increase of 13·6 per cent and were the largest on record. They consisted for the most part of Bengal coal.

Ninety per cent of the sea-borne coal was loaded direct into waggons at the quay. The imports of kerosene oil increased by 11·6 per cent during the year and there was a large expansion in the imports of spices and unmanufactured tobacco. The increases in the imports of glassware and matches were due chiefly to consignments from Germany and Austria, respectively. Other imports which showed an increase were piece-goods, motor-cars, paper, provisions and oilmanstores, hardware and fodder. Imports of machinery and metals were much below the exceptionally heavy imports of 1922-23, while there was also a decrease in the imports of motor cycles, fuel and mineral oils (other than kerosene), raw cotton, yarn, gunnies, teak, chemicals, Government stores and building materials. There was a considerable expansion, however, in the imports of Australian timber. The exports of groundnuts, which form the principal commodity shipped from the Port of Madras, showed a decrease of 8·8 per cent when compared with those of the previous year. Exports of raw cotton, however, increased from 10,666 tons to 18,319 tons or by 71·8 per cent. There was also a new development of the export traffic of the port in the shape of the shipment to Europe of 21,649 tons of cane jaggery. The export trade in tanned hides expanded by 24 per cent ; that in raw hides by 15 per cent. Other exports which showed an increase were castor-seed, oil-cake, piece-goods, raw and manufactured tobacco, Government stores, and vegetables. There was a decrease in the exports of bone-manure, onions, ores and vegetable oils.

Minor ports

Finance

124. The receipts of the Port, Marine and Coast Light funds amounted to Rs. 31·18 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 31·83 lakhs as against Rs. 25·37 lakhs and Rs. 20·37 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The closing balance consisted of Rs. 10·61 lakhs in cash and Rs. 22·97 lakhs in Government securities, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 15·39 lakhs and Rs. 16·80 lakhs, respectively. The total collections from port dues amounted to Rs. 6·67 lakhs as against Rs. 5·12 lakhs in 1922-23.

Trade

The aggregate value of sea-borne trade of the minor ports in the Presidency was 49·12 crores as against Rs. 43·65 crores in the previous year. Tuticorin continued to hold the foremost place among the minor ports, Cochin remaining second. Nineteen thousand five hundred and twenty-eight vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 6,887,304 tons entered the various outports during the year as against 18,677 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 5,740,593 tons in the previous year. The total number of passengers that arrived at, and sailed from, the various outports was 552,193 as against 518,261 in 1922-23. The largest number, as usual, travelled via Danushkodi.

General

125. Original works to the value of Rs. 17·41 lakhs were executed by the Port Department, the Public Works and the Harbour Engineer's departments for the Port and Marine funds. Schemes for the improvement of the Negapatam bar were considered during the year. The Harbour Engineer's report on the result of the experimental works at Cochin was also under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. The supply of boats was equal to the demand at the various ports. With effect from the 1st January 1924 the port of Tuticorin was constituted a separate port with a separate port fund. A Port Conservancy Board was constituted at Cochin from the 1st November 1923. Cocanada and other northern ports on the coast experienced a severe cyclone in November. At Vizagapatam eight licensed boats and a ferry boat were washed away, and at Baruva six boats were smashed, but there was no loss of life. The total number of wrecks and casualties reported from the outports during the year was 17 as against 15 in the previous year. Dredging operations for the maintenance of boat channels were carried out at Cocanada, Cuddalore, Negapatam, Mangalore, Cochin and Tuticorin. All coast lights, with the exception of Havelock Point which was extinguished and abandoned as of no further use to shipping, were exhibited throughout the year without interruption.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1923)

[*Report on the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes, and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the year 1923*]

Mortality

Wild animals

Snakes

126. The number of persons killed by wild animals during the year was 851 as against 901 in the previous year. The mortality from wild animals was highest in Ganjām and Vizagapatam and caused mostly by tigers. The number of persons who died as the result of snake bite rose to 1,150 from 936 last year. The largest number of deaths (169) occurred in Tanjore.

Rewards

127. One thousand seven hundred and twenty-five animals were destroyed during the year as compared with 2,022 in 1922, and rewards of the aggregate value of Rs. 19,790 were paid as against Rs. 21,246 last year.

MISCELLANEOUS (1923

[*Reports on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts; Return of sulphur licences in force during the year 1923*]

Arms, explosives and sulphur

128. The total number of licences in force under the Indian Arms Act rose by 3,437 to 62,223, the increase being chiefly in Malabar, Madura and Chittoor districts. In the Malabar district the abnormal increase was due to the fact that the issue of licences in the previous year had been restricted as a consequence of the Mappilla rebellion. The increase in the Madura and Chittoor districts was attributed to the freer issues of licences in those districts. The number of licences issued for the destruction of wild animals doing injury to crops or cattle rose from 13,261 to 14,634. Licences to carry arms for sport, protection or display numbered 46,557, or 2,246 more than in the previous year. The number of breech-loading guns licensed rose from 13,379 to 15,292. There was a fall (243) in the total number of revolvers licensed, the Coimbatore district showing a marked decrease. The number of pistols which were licensed was 567 as against 570 last year. The total number of licences issued under the Indian Explosives Act rose by 1,442 to 9,731, the increase being mainly due to a large number of licences issued in the Coimbatore district for blasting wells. There were 553 prosecutions under the Arms and Explosives Acts, of which 455 resulted in conviction giving a percentage of 82 as against 86 in the previous year. The Salem district contributed the largest number of prosecutions. There was a slight increase in the number of sulphur licences but the quantity for which licences were obtained remained practically the same. No illicit manufacture of fire-arms was detected in any part of the Presidency.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

AGRICULTURE (1923–24)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture and the Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for 1923–24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

General

129. Two senior officers of the Department of Agriculture retired on proportionate pension, four of its senior officers in two years being lost to the Department in this manner. The Government Agricultural Engineer's section was reorganized. Following the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee the posts of two upper subordinates, four lower subordinates and one overseer were abolished in the department. Land was acquired for a millet breeding station and the lay-out of the farm and the construction of some of the necessary buildings were completed. A representative collection of specimens of various crops together with models of agricultural implements was sent to the British Empire Exhibition. Bales of cotton were also supplied to the Indian Central Cotton Committee for this purpose and specimens were supplied to the section dealing with the mycological diseases of Empire crops. The construction of four provincial quarters and sixteen quarters for subordinate officers partially relieved the shortage of quarters. The Certificate course at the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, was not popular and it was decided to abandon it and replace it by a special intermediate course with agriculture as the main subject. The results of the B.Sc. Ag. examinations held in 1923 were disappointing, only eight out of the seventeen students who appeared obtaining a degree. Selection for the new class in the degree course was made by a committee consisting of the Hon'ble the Minister for Development, the Director of Agriculture and the Principal. There were 68 applicants, 20 were selected and out of these only seven actually joined, of whom two resigned early in the session. College Day and the usual Agricultural Conference were held in July 1923, the Hon'ble the Minister for Development, Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu Garu, presiding. The work at the Talipparamba Agricultural Middle School was satisfactory and the school is gradually becoming popular. The Agricultural School at Anakāpalle was housed in permanent buildings and 23 students were enrolled. The south-west monsoon was favourable on the west coast and in the great deltas, but was feeble elsewhere and it was not until September that good rains were received. The north-east monsoon commenced in time and gave heavy rains along the east coast in October, but was afterwards diverted to the north and south with ruinous effects. A severe cyclone in November caused serious damage in Ganjām and Vizagapatam, while the Deccan and central districts and the west coast received little or no rain.

Agricultural education

Season and rainfall

Agricultural research and experiments

130. The sugarcane breeding station at Coimbatore experimented with 170 different combinations and 130,000 seedlings were raised. Seeds were sent to the Government experiment station at Anakāpalle and raised there with fair success. A survey of the sugarcane tract in the north of the Presidency was effected by a special officer. Experiments were conducted at the Samalkot station with a view to ascertaining how far the "Red Rot" disease of canes is controllable by cultivation methods. The system of line-planting was found to give an increased yield of 11·3 per cent and to result in a saving of 12·6 per cent of setts. Manurial experiments were continued at Pāiūr station. At the paddy breeding station,

Sugarcane

Paddy.

Coimbatore, an especially good season was experienced. The strains known as Co. Nos. I and II as well as G.E.B. No. 24 were multiplied and seed was distributed on a large scale. A new strain, Co. No. III, was evolved, while other promising strains continued under trial. Seventeen thousand and ninety-four pounds of seed were distributed from the Coimbatore station during the year. The station at Aduturai gained in popularity and attracted an increasing number of visitors. The total quantity of seed distributed from this station was 71,805 lb. Breeding experiments in Cotton
cotton were continued on the various stations. A new farm at Guntūr was put in working order during the year. It was definitely established as the result of six years' experiments at Nandyal that it does not pay to manure cotton followed by sorghum each year, but that manuring in alternate years results in a profitable return. Work was begun in the new Dry grains
millets breeding station at Coimbatore and the study of *calocoris* resistance in cholam was taken up by the Millets Specialist in co-operation with the Government Entomologist. Research work with coconuts Coconuts
was continued on the lines of past years A new line of research was definitely undertaken, however, viz., the self-pollination of a few trees specially selected as being of a desirable type and heavy yielders. During the year Mr. Sampson's book on coconuts summarizing the results obtained on Government experimental stations for the past five years was published. Apples and plums at the pomological station at Fruit culture
Coonoor did particularly well but the only variety of raspberry which has proved successful is that known as the "Bangalore Raspberry," a cultivated variety of the species indigenous to the Nilgiris —*Rubus lasiocarpus*. At Kallar the sapodilla (*Aschras Sapota*), a fruit new to the district, was successfully grown. Various problems arising in the cultiva- Planters'
tion of coffee, tea and rubber were studied by officers of the department. crops
Special attention was paid to the diseases of tea and the Rubber Mycologist carried out research on several problems, the most important of which is the question of protecting rubber trees from the ravages of *Phytophthora Meadii*, which produces an abnormal leaf-fall. Classes were also held to teach estate writers how to apply the Keuchenius isolation method for the treatment of brown bast. The study of potato cultivation Miscellaneous
was continued during the year on the Nanjanad potato farm and the crops
study of chillies was begun on the Guntūr farm. Manurial experiments were conducted in Guntūr with a view to improve the tobacco crop. Good results were obtained from the cross-breeding of cattle at Coimbatore. Live stock
The production of milk per cow per day in the college dairy in January was 14·7 lb. per cow as against 8·2 lb. in January 1921, before the introduction of cross-breds. A buffalo breeding station was opened at Guntūr.

131. In the Chemical section 1,051 analyses of soil, manure, etc., were **Scientific research and experiments**
conducted during the year either in connexion with field research or for the public. A further study was made of the manurial action of calcium Chemistry
cyanamide and other manures and of the conditions governing ammonia fixation in the different soils of the Presidency. The result of experiments on the storage of farmyard manure was in favour of the loose-box system. Large scale experiments on the malting of cholam were conducted and it was clearly shown that it is possible to control the temperature and to malt cholam satisfactorily on a commercial scale. Though Bacteriology
the Bacteriological section was abolished in 1922–23, a limited amount of bacteriological work was done. A large number of plants were identified General
by the Botanical section, and Part V of Gamble's *Flora of the Madras Presi-* botany
dency was published. A satisfactory method of budding Hevea rubber, an operation which is attended by special difficulties in the South of India, was discovered by the Rubber Mycologist. The abnormal year was Entomology
exceptionally favourable to most insect pests. Investigations into the habits of the fruit moth in the Kistna district and into the methods for the control of the hairy caterpillar were conducted. In the field of mycology, Mycology
investigation was made into various diseases of cotton, arecanuts, coffee, cholam and cardamoms.

Aids to the public

132. The Pest Act was applied to the cultivation of Cambodia cotton for the fourth year in succession in five taluks of the Salem district, five taluks in the Trichinopoly district, to the whole of the Madura district and to the whole of the Coimbatore district except the Kollegal taluk. The time for the removal of the plants from the ground was again extended to the 1st September, but the removal of cotton was not completed till the 20th September or later. The effect of lengthening the cropping season for two years in succession was bad and, as a sufficient "dead season" was not provided, insect pests were found to be again increasing. Operations under the Pest Act to combat palm disease in the Northern Circars were continued, as also were those directed against the coconut caterpillar. The *mahali* disease of arecanuts was favoured by climatic conditions and spread to coconuts. A very strenuous educational campaign was undertaken to teach the ryots the correct method of dealing with this disease (viz., early spraying with Bordeaux mixture) and, in conjunction with the co-operative societies, chemicals and sprayers were placed at the command of the ryots as cheaply as possible.

Operations against disease

Demonstration of farms and plots

133. There were about 600 demonstration plots of the kind described in the Administration Report for 1922–23 in existence during the year. The majority were successful and appreciated by the ryots, but it was found impossible to obtain harvest results from all of them for lack of staff. The marked improvement in cultivation methods and the consequent increase in profit to the ryots in the neighbourhood of the demonstration farm established some years previously at Gudiyāttam resulted in the decision to establish three or four similar but smaller farms in different places in order to spread the knowledge over a wider area. Improved varieties of sugarcane were introduced in the Vizagapatam and Ganjām districts and in the Rajahmundry taluk of the Gōdāvari district. "Red Mauritius" has almost completely replaced local varieties in South Kanara. The demonstration of iron mills for crushing sugarcane was carried on in sugarcane districts. Steady progress was made in the introduction of the "Sindewahe" furnace for boiling jaggery with fuel consisting of sugarcane waste. The use of this furnace is calculated to effect a saving of Rs. 60 per acre on fuel and cultivation expenses and an increase of Rs. 30 per acre on the out-turn of jaggery. The reduction of the seed-rate and the adoption of methods of economic planting were taught to paddy growers throughout the Presidency. Progress was made in the popularization of improved strains of cotton. In Bellary district 81,000 acres were cropped with H. 25 cotton seed which has nearly supplanted the local variety. The department sold 1,340 iron ploughs as against 584 in 1922-23. The use of green and other manures was encouraged in all circles.

Crops

Agricultural and cattle shows

134. An increased number of small agricultural exhibitions was held at local fairs and festivals, numbering some 50 in all as against 25 in the previous year. These exhibitions proved to be of great use and arrangements were made to develop this line of work more fully in the future. Owing to the prevalence of famine conditions the usual cattle show at Tiruppūr was not held.

Agricultural Engineering

135. No research work in Agricultural Engineering was conducted during the year owing to lack of personnel.

Statistics

136. The usual reports and returns were issued during the year and press summaries were also published in the newspapers. A condition report of the cotton crop was published in January to meet the wishes of the cotton trade. The areas estimated in the crop forecasts in 1922–23 differed from the actuals by 0·2 to 3·8 per cent.

Finance

137. Expenditure decreased from Rs. 14,82,243 to Rs. 14,47,949 and receipts rose from Rs. 3,22,815 to Rs. 3,54,655, the net expenditure thus declining from Rs. 11,59,428 to Rs. 10,93,294. The increase in receipts was mainly due to the higher price which the cotton lint and seeds sold by the department fetched over the ruling price.

Civil Veterinary Department

138. The department consisted of a Chief Superintendent, one Divisional Superintendent and four Deputy Superintendents till the 1st November 1923, when the post of the Divisional Superintendent was abolished and the Presidency was divided into five circles each in charge of a Circle officer under the direct control of the Chief Superintendent. On account of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, the grade of Inspector was abolished and the men holding charge of ranges were posted to the charge of veterinary institutions. There were 190 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons on the rolls. Six new dispensaries were opened and three more touring Assistant Surgeons appointed during the year. At the veterinary institutions in the Presidency, excluding the Madras Veterinary College Hospital, 2,688 castrations were performed, 82,401 in-patients and out-patients treated, and 4,209 cases supplied with medicine without being brought to the institutions. The touring staff carried out 18,540 inoculations, treated 40,030 contagious and non-contagious cases and castrated 6,844 animals. The mortality amongst cattle from contagious diseases dropped from 28,178 in the year 1922-23 to 23,134 during the year under report, but there was an increase in the number of casualties under the heads of Anthrax, Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia and Blackquarter. The total provincial expenditure of the department, excluding veterinary instruction, amounted to Rs. 4,40,040-9-4 during the year as against Rs. 4,60,400 in the previous year. The Veterinary College maintained its strength in spite of a reduction in the number of Government stipends granted to students.

WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1333—1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1333; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

Rainfall

139. The south-west monsoon commenced later than usual on the West Coast but heavy rains commenced in the second fortnight of June and continued till the middle of August. This excessive rainfall caused heavy floods in rivers in South Kanara in July and again in South Kanara and North Malabar in August, which damaged crops of paddy and sugarcane on low-lying lands. The rainfall was, however, favourable to the crops on high-lying lands, except pepper and coconut. Freshes in the main rivers dependent on the rainfall in the Western Ghats were plentiful in July and August and the season was favourable in the great deltas. In the rest of the Presidency the monsoon was generally late and the rainfall inadequate and ill-distributed. The rainfall was less than in the previous year, except in Gōdāvari, Kistna, Nellore and the Deccan and even there it was less than the average. Anantapur and the Central districts received only about half the average rainfall for these districts. The Circars and Deccan received a fair amount of rainfall in July and dry lands were extensively sown but there was little subsequent rainfall till September and the crops suffered severely from drought. Sowings of early crops were restricted in the Carnatic and Central districts. Good rains were received in September in most districts, which brought fair supplies to irrigation sources, stimulated the sowing of late crops and revived standing crops and pasture. The north-east monsoon was very unfavourable in strong contrast with the previous year. The monsoon burst in time and gave heavy rains in the second fortnight of October in the Carnatic and the South. There was also copious rainfall in the Circars, Chittoor and North Arcot. The behaviour of the monsoon thereafter was extremely disconcerting. There was little subsequent rainfall in the Carnatic, Chittoor and North Arcot except in the middle of November and the beginning of December.

Very heavy rains were received in the south about the middle of December, especially in Tinnevelly where the Tāmbraparni rose in flood, breached tanks and caused considerable damage to crops and houses. A severe cyclone swept over the coastal taluks of Ganjām and Vizagapatam on the 17th November; it damaged crops and houses, breached several tanks, especially in Vizagapatam, and dislocated railway traffic for over a month. There was also heavy rainfall at the same time in Gōdāvari and Kistna. The monsoon failed almost completely in the Deccan and Central districts and on the West Coast. Sowings of late crops were restricted in the Deccan. Normal areas were sown elsewhere with the help of the rainfall in September and October, but the effect of the season was seen in the reduced yields of crops, especially in the Central districts. There were rains in the first half of January in South Arcot, Trichinopoly, and the South and showers in the second half of March in South Arcot, Coimbatore and the South and on the West Coast. The hot weather showers in April and May were up to the average in Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Salem and Coimbatore. On the whole the season was generally unfavourable except in the great deltas where conditions were normal owing to the bounty of the rivers. Both the monsoons precipitated their rain clouds in torrents in a few regions and left the remaining country arid. There were rains on the West Coast and in the extreme north and south of the East Coast, but the inland districts between the Ghats, especially Bellary, Anantapur, North Arcot, Salem and parts of Coimbatore, were ill-served by both the monsoons. The agricultural situation was bad in Bellary and worse in Anantapur where the season in the previous year had also been unfavourable.

Crops

140. The total area sown was below the average in the previous year, especially in Anantapur, North Arcot and Salem. The out-turn of crops was up to the normal only in Gōdāvari, Kistna, Guntūr, Chingleput, Tanjore and Rāmnād. The out-turn in the other districts was below normal, especially in Bellary, Anantapur, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore. The only districts in which relief operations under the Famine Code were found necessary were Ganjām, Bellary and Anantapur. Distress in Ganjām was confined to the Chokapadu khandam where test works were opened in March and converted into relief works in April. A test work was opened at Kolur in Bellary taluk in January and converted into a relief work in February. The works in Ganjām and Bellary were closed in August and September, respectively, owing to the improvement in prospects. Distress was severe in Anantapur and test works were opened from January onwards and converted into relief works later. There were ten relief works by the end of September, but all were closed in October as the situation improved with the favourable rains of September. Seasonal remissions were granted to some extent on account of inadequate rainfall and scanty supplies in irrigation sources in parts of Gōdāvari, Kistna (Ellore, Nandigama and Bezwada), Kurnool (Pattikonda), Nellore, South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Rāmnād. Remissions on account of inundation and loss of crop were granted in parts of Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Tinnevelly (Srīvaikuntam and Tiruchendūr) and Malabar. Owing to the general failure of the early crops the dry assessment in twenty-four red-soil villages in the Rayadrug taluk of Bellary was again fully remitted, the suspended revenue of the previous fasli in parts of the district was either remitted or postponed to the next fasli and the collection of dry assessment amounting to about five lakhs of rupees was suspended beyond the fasli. Collection of assessment was postponed on a large scale in parts of Anantapur and the suspended kists of faslis 1331 and 1332 were remitted in forty-nine villages of the Gooty taluk.

HORTICULTURE (1923-24) *

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1923-24; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society of Madras for 1923-24*]

Government Botanic Gardens and Parks, the Nilgiris

141. The Government gardens at Ootacamund and the Sim's Park at Coonoor are of historic interest and very popular places of public resort. These parks contain a very valuable collection of trees and plants and in this respect compare favourably with any gardens in the East. The nurseries were kept well stocked and seeds and plants were on sale to the public. Special features during the year were two beds of *Antirrhinum* and *Schizanthus*, the latter grown from acclimatized seed. The expenditure on these gardens amounted to Rs. 32,329-7-2 and the receipts to Rs. 7,352-1-1 as against Rs. 31,544-8-10 and Rs. 7,752-1-10, respectively, in 1922-23.

The Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras (1923-24)

142. The eighty-fifth annual exhibition of flowers, vegetables and fruits was held in February 1924 and attracted a much larger number of visitors than in the previous two years. Correspondence with botanic and other public societies, planters and the general public was maintained and sales and exchanges were effected. The supply of class materials for the local colleges and schools and of specimens to students, visitors and other horticultural societies was continued as in previous years. The receipts from cut flowers and from floral work increased from Rs. 2,560-12-9 to Rs. 2,573-7-0. Several thousands of annuals were raised and distributed among members or sold to non-members. The rosary was extended to meet the growing demand for cut flowers and rose plants. Several valuable plants were planted in the ornamental gardens, chief among them were (1) *Magnolia grandiflora*, (2) *Cordia sebestena*, in a dwarf form obtained by "gootee" for the first time, (3) *Clerodendron Wallichi* (blue flowered) and (4) *Victoria Regia* raised from seed. The cultivation of Ipecacuanha was undertaken as an experiment at the instance of the Department of Agriculture. The quantity of plant material which the department could procure for the purpose was, however, extremely limited and consequently it was not possible to obtain any conclusive data on the best method of propagating and cultivating this important drug as a commercial crop. Of the fruit trees the *Washington Navel Orange* made good vegetative growth and bore more fruit than last year, but there was no improvement in its quality. The income of the society for the year from all sources, including the Government grant, amounted to Rs. 21,658-3-11 as against Rs. 16,878-3-10, or Rs. 4,780-0-1 more than last year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 21,268-2-5 as against Rs. 17,982-11-9 in the previous year.

FISHERIES

(1ST JULY 1923 TO 30TH JUNE 1924)

[*Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending the 30th June 1924*]

General

143. After fifteen years' distinguished service, Mr. James Hornell, F.L.S., F.R.A.I., who had been Director of Fisheries since 1918, retired on the 6th August 1923. The Retrenchment Committee, after scrutinizing the finances of the Department of Fisheries, came to the conclusion that a certain number of the department's activities were unremunerative and recommended that the department should be abolished and such of its

* For information about the Government Cinchona Plantations see infra under Manufactures—Industries.

functions as were retained should be transferred to other departments. This recommendation was under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. At the beginning of April 1924 the fish-curing yards which were previously under the control of the Salt Department were transferred to that of the Department of Fisheries. Experiments in the introduction of new methods of deep-sea fishing were conducted with the Danish seine net from a motor launch. The launch proved unsuitable for the purpose and the experiments had to be terminated, but much valuable knowledge was gained of the fishing grounds off the West Coast.

Marine fisheries

Government establishments

144. The Government Fisheries Cannery at Chaliyam worked at a loss of Rs. 1,568 for the period of nine months from the 1st July 1923 to the 31st March 1924, after which date the Cannery was brought under the commercial system of accounts. The loss was largely due to a large number of tins being written off, when stock was taken of the tins which had been called in from the hands of the Madras agents. Mackerel and prawns were again scarce and only a few hundred tins were packed. The output of tins of all kinds rose from 68,029 tins in the previous year to 74,113 tins. Sales through the Madras agents became even more unsatisfactory than in the previous year and their agency was terminated. Sales fell from 36,835 tins in the previous year to 27,331 tins. The fishing season of the Tanur experimental station was, on the whole, disappointing, as sardines and mackerel were scarce. The routine commercial operations, therefore, consisting of the manufacture of oil, guano and cured fish were restricted and showed a loss of Rs. 1,275 on the year's working. There was considerable expenditure during the year, however, on apparatus and technological research. The total quantity of fish purchased for curing was 92,031½ pounds as against 249,293 pounds in the previous year and many of the usual demands of customers could not be met. The output of guano was 8,398 pounds as against 84,720 pounds in the previous year but that of fish meal rose from 10,300 pounds to 22,113 pounds. The whole of the guano manufactured was sold and the sales of fish meal increased. The lower grades of oil and stearine as well as the residues of oil refining were sold to the Government Soap Institute; the higher grades were supplied to the Cannery and to the Military Department. The products of the station were exhibited in August in the Bellary Exhibition and at Mangalore in December. Certificates of merit were received from both and a gold medal for oil from the Mangalore Exhibition. Many important improvements in the method of manufacture of fish oil, guano and fish meal were effected. Research for the purpose of discovering the means of preventing some of the well-known defects to which cured fish are liable was taken up for the first time.

Public fish-curing yards

There were only eleven fish-curing yards under the management of the Department of Fisheries at the beginning of the year; two new yards were opened during the year and at the beginning of April the remaining 93 yards in the Presidency were brought under its control. The total quantity of fish brought into the first thirteen yards during the year was 399,277 maunds, the cured weight being 238,909 pounds. The sheds in most of the yards in the Northern Circars had suffered severe damage during the cyclone of 1923 and some of the West Coast yards suffered from the floods and from sea erosion.

Private oil and guano factories

The quantity of guano manufactured by private factories during the season was about 22,500 tons, valued at Rs. 13,50,000, as against 32,000 tons, valued at Rs. 24,00,000, in the previous year. Seventeen thousand tons of fish manure, with an estimated selling price of Rs. 6,80,000, were also manufactured. The quantity of oil manufactured was 7,250 tons, valued at Rs. 14,50,000, as against 12,000 tons in the previous year. Owing to the failure of the sardine season in South Kanara and South Malabar there were only 440 factories working as against 647 in 1922-23.

Pearl and chank fisheries

The net profit realized on the pearl and chank fisheries was Rs. 35,368 as against Rs. 38,286 in the previous year. The profit was derived entirely from the chank fisheries, a deficit of Rs. 15,165 being incurred on the pearl fisheries. Plague in Tuticorin scared away many divers and the high wages offered by Ceylon merchants

induced many of the divers at Rāmēswaram and Mandapam to go to that country. The condition of the pearl oysters on all the banks was good and gave promise of a remunerative pearl fishery in 1926 and thereafter. One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six pounds of bêche-de-mer were cured as against 855 pounds in the previous season. The biological supply and the oyster supply sections were amalgamated in the month of January, and both sections worked at a profit. The value of biological specimens sent out rose from Rs. 4,740 to Rs. 5,393. The methods of purifying oysters at the Ennur oyster farm were further improved, the oysters being floated in clear tidal waters on specially designed rafts. The number of visitors to the aquarium slightly diminished from 102,349 to 95,800, the receipts from all sources amounting to Rs. 8,933 as against Rs. 9,461 during the previous year. Further progress was made in the investigation into the habits and life-history of the oil-sardine, but the observations on mackerel continued to be inadequate owing to the comparative scarcity of that fish since 1921.

Biological and oyster supply

Aquarium

Research

145. The net profits on inland fisheries during the year were Rs. 16,353-13-6 as against Rs. 20,450-13-5 in the preceding year. Unfavourable seasonal conditions in certain districts resulted in lower rentals, while a sum of Rs. 4,169-13-0 was paid to local boards as extra compensation on account of the newly acquired fisheries of the lower Cauvery. The stocking of the tanks and rivers under departmental control with improved varieties of fish was carried out as in previous years. The three fish farms at Sunkesula (Kurnool), Ippur (Nellore) and the Powder Factory (Madras) as well as the larvicidal fish farm at Praema (Kurnool) worked satisfactorily during the year. Difficulties with the water-supply were experienced at the Vellore Fort moat farm. The Chingleput moat farm was found to be unworkable and the Mopad farm was still under construction. Besides the anti-malarial work done in the Nallamalais, the Peddagadi pool and the Pullamadugu in Cuddapah were stocked with larvicidal fish.

Inland fisheries

146. The total number of pupil-teachers undergoing training in the Fisheries Training Institute, Calicut, was 33. The District Educational officer reported favourably on the work of the school. The number of village schools in existence at the end of the year was 27 and the number of pupils increased from 1,761 to 2,001, of whom 504 were girls. Owing to the failure of the fishing season the working of the fishermen's co-operative societies was unsatisfactory and their number fell from 63 to 54. There was an appreciable decrease in intemperance among the younger men and efforts were made to inculcate habits of thrift and to improve their social condition in various ways.

Miscellaneous

147. The receipts of the Department of Fisheries fell from Rs. 3·11 lakhs in 1922-23 to Rs. 2·95 lakhs and the expenditure rose from Rs. 3·15 lakhs to Rs. 3·23 lakhs, the net deficit being Rs. 28,475-12-1.

Finance

FORESTS (1923-24)

[*Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year ending the 31st March 1924 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Forests*]

148. In the administration of forests in the Presidency the year was marked by the introduction by the newly appointed Chief Forest Engineer of new methods of exploitation. Another important event was the appointment of a Forest Utilization Officer to deal exclusively with the commercial side of the Forest Department. A number of exhibits were sent to England for the British Empire Exhibition. Those destined for the Madras Court in the Indian Pavilion were chiefly of a museum type, except for a very fine inlaid map in wood and some ornamental screens. The timber exhibit shown by Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co. in the all-India Court, however, contained several Madras timbers, such as

General

Terminalia tomentosa laurel wood), *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, teak, rosewood, *Lagerstromia*, *Cedrela Toona* and *Hardwickia pinnata*. Of the two committees appointed for the investigation of forest grievances in the Kurnool and Chittoor districts, referred to in the last Presidency Administration Report, the Chittoor committee submitted its report during the year and most of its recommendations were accepted. The report of the Kurnool committee had not been received at the end of the year.

Area

149. About 20 square miles of reserved lands were finally settled under the Forest Act and 3 square miles were added by the rectification of boundaries and the re-computation of areas. About 24 square miles in eight districts were disforested, chiefly to provide lands for the extension of cultivation, and as a result of the re-computation of areas 107 square miles were excluded.

Demarcation

Ninety-four miles of boundaries were demarcated, chiefly in Lower Gōdāvari, South Salem, Kollegal and Madura divisions, at a cost of Rs. 2,221. The demarcation of 21,599 miles of boundary lines was repaired, while 656 miles of boundary lines remained to be demarcated at the close of the year.

Survey

A Survey of India Party was engaged in defining the disputed portion of the boundary between Bastar State and the Cherla range in the Upper Gōdāvari division and another party surveyed 5·48 square miles of reserves in the North and West Cuddapah divisions on the one-inch scale. Madras Survey Parties carried out boundary surveys in Kistna, Salem, Malabar and Trichinopoly districts.

Management

150. A working plan to regulate the grazing over an area of 117 square miles in the forests of the Gooty range in the Anantapur division and one for small timber, fuel and bamboos for 85 square miles in the Chandragiri range in the Chittoor division were sanctioned during the year.

Working plans

Working plans for the Sirvel range in the South Kurnool division and for the South and West Vellore divisions were completed. Revised working-schemes for the mangrove forests of the Kandikuppa reserve in the Lower Gōdāvari division and for the bamboo and fuel areas in the Central Salem division were sanctioned. Some useful work in the way of mapping and enumeration of stock was carried out by the newly appointed Logging Engineer in the Chenat Nair forests, topographical work and enumeration being done simultaneously and the results of the enumeration being depicted on the map in such a way that the quantity of timber in a block could be seen at a glance.

Roads and communications

The chief new work of the year was the Mount Stuart Ghat road, 6 miles and 3 furlongs of which were constructed at a cost of Rs. 68,236. One hundred and seventy-six miles of new roads were made and 1,419 miles of road were repaired as compared with 204 and 1,242 miles, respectively, in the previous year. The total expenditure on new works amounted to Rs. 1,08,083 and on repairs to Rs. 94,230 as against Rs. 1,37,655 and Rs. 95,504, respectively, in 1922–23.

Buildings

The total expenditure on buildings amounted to Rs. 1·45 lakhs as against Rs. 1·62 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 7,231 was spent on the reconstruction of buildings at Nilambur damaged during the Mappilla rebellion. Miscellaneous buildings, such as inspection bungalows, range offices and subordinates' quarters, were constructed in various divisions.

Other works

Rupees 11,048 were spent on the construction and repair of wells, the improvement of water-supply in the forests and the eradication of rank vegetation. Improvements to the Paishwani and Kumaradhari rivers in the South Mangalore division were effected and the transport of timber facilitated.

Forest conservancy

151. The number of forest offences reported was slightly less than in the previous year, although it was still higher than the average for the preceding three years. Including cases pending from the previous year 30,205 cases were disposed of during the year. Of these, 9,023 were taken to court, 19,719 were compounded and 1,463 were withdrawn, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 30,878, 7,491, 20,790 and 2,597, respectively. Of the cases tried by magistrates the percentage of acquittal was nearly 28 per cent as against 18 per cent in the previous year. This increase was chiefly due to the larger number of cases which

were compounded after having been taken on to the magistrate's file. Rupees 2,81,310 were realized as compounding fees as against Rs. 2,72,080 in the previous year.

152. The system of early burning under departmental supervision was extended during the year to the three Cuddapah divisions, Chittoor, North Vellore, North Salem and North Mangalore divisions. The results on the whole were good, the year being a favourable one, except in Upper and Lower Gōdāvari where considerable areas were burnt. Early burning was carried out over nearly 3,855 square miles as against 2,000 square miles in the previous year. The area over which special protection was attempted was 5,811 square miles, of which 320 square miles (5·5 per cent) were burnt, the figures for the previous year being 5,480 square miles and 597 square miles (10·19 per cent), respectively. The expenditure during the official year 1923–24 was Rs. 59,929. In 1922–23 it was Rs. 78,854 and the average expenditure during the previous five years was Rs. 1,18,417. This very considerable reduction in expenditure was due to the adoption of the system of early burning. **Protection from fire**

153. The establishment of reproduction under working plans or schemes was (*a*) mainly natural, (*b*) mainly artificial and (*c*) by afforestation. The methods in use in the Chenat Nair and Ghoomsur (Ganjām) forests and in the Nilgiris eucalyptus plantations belonged to the first class. In the Chenat Nair forest the quantity of young seedlings in the felled area was more than sufficient and promised, with careful tending, to become a finer crop than the one which previously stood on the ground. In the Ghoomsur forest the regeneration of sāl following clear felling and burning was all that could be desired. The regeneration of the area cleared by felling in the Nilgiris eucalyptus plantations was by coppice; the yield from the coppice which in many cases was in its fourth rotation was diminishing and steps were taken to replant where coppice shoots failed. In the Mount Stuart deciduous forests in South Coimbatore and in the Nilambur deciduous forests, methods of the second class were employed. In the Mount Stuart forests 251 acres, an area larger than any treated in previous years, were sown, chiefly with teak; where the soil proved to be too water-logged for teak the seeds of *Terminalia tomentosa* were sown. By the end of the year 431 acres were bearing an established crop, chiefly of teak. In the Nilambur forest the usual clear-fellings, both of mature teak plantations and natural forests, were undertaken and 175 acres were planted or sown. Very little afforestation was done. In North Coimbatore experimental work was continued in the direction of extending some small sholas (evergreen forests at a high elevation) by sowing suitable species; in the Nilgiris in order to restore the tree growth destroyed by fires, seed of various species suitable to the locality was sown and root-suckers of *Acacia dealbata* were planted. In other areas working plans or schemes were not in operation. In the Upper Gōdāvari 275 acres were clear-felled, the debris was collected into heaps and burnt and the burnt patches were sown with teak seed. In the Nallamalais (South Kurnool division) 73 acres in four different localities were clear-felled and sown with teak and other seeds. In the better portions of the Nallamalais, however, natural regeneration was plentiful. In Tinnevelly, 55 acres in the Pāpanāsam forests were planted with teak, and the experimental work in the evergreen forests, referred to in last year's report, was continued. In North and South Mangalore the existing establishment was unable to do much more than tend the somewhat extensive crop of *Hopea* and it was found necessary to reduce the scale on which sowings were undertaken. In North Mangalore 535 acres were prepared for sowing and in the South Mangalore division sowing was carried out over an area of 336 acres. A further area of 32 acres cleared by felling was sown with deciduous species. In the Wynaad clear-fellings were continued and 80 acres were felled in two ranges. Sixty-one acres were dibbled with teak seed, 9 acres were planted with teak stumps and 5 acres dibbled with other seeds. Tending operations were carried out in all plantations and regeneration areas where necessary and thinnings **Sylviculture**

Research

and improvement fellings were undertaken in various forests. During the year the Deputy Conservator of Forests in charge of sylvicultural research continued to study the germination and early growth of the principal evergreen species of the Western Ghats and of *Terminalia paniculata*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Bombax malabaricum*, *Lagerstromia lanceolata* and *Gmelina arborea*. Experiments in raising an underwood of *Artocarpus hirsuta* and *Hopea parviflora* in the Nilambur teak plantations were continued during the year.

Supply

Timber

154. The output of timber during the year was 99,520 tons of 50 cubic feet, the output during 1922–23 being equivalent to 104,980 tons of 50 cubic feet. Of this quantity, 26,260 tons were extracted by departmental agency and 65,540 tons by purchasers as against 23,500 tons and 76,160 tons, respectively, in the previous year. The increased departmental extraction was attributable chiefly to the resumption of fellings in Ganjām which had been stopped in 1922–23 to prevent overstocking in the Russellkonda depot. The decrease in the quantity removed by purchasers was largely due to the increase in the factor of conversion for timber obtained from the unreserved lands in the North Mangalore division. Apart from the timber sent to London to be shown in the British Empire Exhibition, 15,951·64 cubic feet of teak, rosewood, laurel and other woods were sent to Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co. Part of this was to provide a stock of timber to be sold to buyers who might be attracted by the exhibits. The London timber trade continued to be very slack and sales during the year amounted to only 509 cubic feet. From the time when the business with Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co. was inaugurated the total sales up to the end of the year were 4,333 cubic feet, on which a net profit of about Rs. 3 per cubic foot was realized. Messrs. Parry & Co. continued to manage the Russellkonda Saw Mill during the year as agents for Government. On the 1st April 1923 the mill entered upon its second year of working. The plant ran smoothly and well throughout the year, the efficiency of the operatives improved and the intake increased by 31,000 cubic feet. In the early months of the year a shortage of water seriously interfered with the work of the mill and the Forest Department commenced the construction of a new well. During the last quarter of the year the quality of logs supplied to the mill improved greatly and the percentage of wastage fell from 70·60 for the first nine months to 55·87. The length and girth of the logs, however, left much to be desired. Sales were nearly doubled as compared with those of the previous year, the quantity sold being approximately 41,500 feet valued at Rs. 1,42,000. The result of the year's operation was a loss of Rs. 36,082–4–2 including an interest charge of Rs. 28,179–1–0, the loss during the previous year being Rs. 6,216–0–9 exclusive of interest. In spite of the fact that the Ghoomsur forests were found to contain little timber of the size for which the machinery was designed and in spite of the depressed state of the market, the mill was working at a profit towards the end of the year. The exploitation of the Chenat Nair forests was continued and 92,182 cubic feet of timber were extracted. Great improvements in the working of the logging machinery were introduced by the Chief Forest Engineer and the Logging Engineer who were appointed in October, with the result that production rose from 2,607 cubic feet in that month to 16,088 cubic feet in March and the book cost per cubic foot was reduced from Rs. 4–14–1 to Rs. 1–6–3. The work was considerably hampered by malaria. The Chief Forest Engineer made preliminary investigation into the possibility of exploiting the Pāpanāsam forest in Tinnevelly for timber, paper pulp, fuel and matches, and the forests in the neighbourhood of Someswar in the North Mangalore division for timber. From various forests 23,567 tons of fuel were removed by departmental agency and 319,267 tons by purchasers as against 21,033 tons and 304,533 tons, respectively, in 1922–23. The price of fuel in the large towns showed a tendency to decrease, the prices in Madura and Tanjore being Rs. 20 and Rs. 16 as against Rs. 24 and Rs. 22–8–0, respectively, in the previous year. The total value of bamboos removed from the forests by all agencies during the year was

Fuel

Bamboos

Rs. 4·03 lakhs as against Rs. 4·08 lakhs in 1922-23. Seven hundred and ten tons of sandalwood were sold for Rs. 7,86,118. The average price realized was Rs. 1,108 per ton as against Rs. 1,182 in the previous year. The quantity sold was much larger than the average of past years as funds were needed for the development of the more valuable timber forests. Sandalwood

The area open to grazing was substantially the same as in 1922-23 but the average area allotted per head of cattle fell from 4·88 acres in 1922-23 to 4·59 acres. Free grazing for 93,299 animals was granted as against 74,177 animals in the previous year, the increase being due to concessions allowed in certain divisions on account of the unfavourable season. Grazing

The estimated value of forest produce removed by free grantees and right-holders amounted to Rs. 87,496 as against Rs. 62,207 in the previous year, the increase being chiefly due to free grants made in connexion with the floods on the west coast and the cyclone in the Northern Circars. Right-holders

155. The number of elephants in charge of the Forest Department at the beginning of the year was 113 valued at Rs. 3,57,550. Nineteen elephants were captured, ten were born in captivity, fifteen died and twenty-three were sold. The stud at the end of the year was 104 valued at Rs. 3,42,350. A sum of Rs. 35,855 was realized by the sale of twenty-three elephants. Of the nineteen elephants captured, three died (one shortly after the close of the year), five were sold and the remaining eleven were in good condition at the end of the year. Kheddah operations in the Mysore forests, the constant blasting incidental to the construction of the Mount Stuart Ghat road and the shortage of fodder due to an unusually short monsoon and to the flowering of bamboos, accounted for the fact that only nineteen elephants were caught as compared with thirty-two in the previous year. **Live stock** Elephants

The stock of buffaloes and bullocks at the end of the year numbered 224 with a book value of Rs. 19,274. Cattle

156. The work of the special panchayat staff was confined to the same eleven districts as in the previous year. During the year 358 square miles of forests were handed over to panchayats and at the close of the year the total area under panchayat management was 858 square miles managed by 457 panchayats. The administration of 137 of these was reported to be good and that of 169 to be fair. In some cases it was found that protection was better than it had been under departmental management, while several panchayats had successfully raised small plantations of trees and had effected improvements by providing water facilities in grazing grounds and by removing rank growth. In marked contrast to the lawlessness which prevailed there some time ago, some of the most efficient panchayats were found in the Guntūr district. Towards the close of the year a conference of panchayatdars was held at Saidapet. The spread of the panchayat movement rendered possible the abolition of two ranges, one in Bellary and the other in Cuddapah. In seven districts thirty-eight panchayats working under the control of the Revenue Department administered an area of 124 square miles. The forest village system was in force during the year in certain reserves in the South and West Vellore, North and South Coimbatore, Palghat, East and South Salem, and North and South Mangalore divisions. The system on the whole worked satisfactorily, especially in the Tiruvannāmalai range in the South Vellore division. **Forest panchayats**

157. Twenty-six students passed out of the College in 1924, seven of whom were from Madras. Six students, including four Government stipendiary students from Madras, obtained Honours certificates, fifteen students were granted Higher Standard certificates and the remaining five, Lower Standard certificates. There were no failures. **Forest College**

158. The total gross revenue during the year was Rs. 54·87 lakhs as against Rs. 52·73 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure debited to the Forest Department was Rs. 46·30 lakhs as against Rs. 47·89 in 1922-23. The result was a surplus of Rs. 8·57 lakhs as against a surplus of Rs. 4·84 lakhs in the previous year. The Forest College worked at a loss of Rs. ·60 lakh. General direction cost Rs. 1·18 lakhs, the Engineering branch Rs. ·62 lakh and the Forest Panchayat staff Rs. ·30 lakh. **Finance**

MINES (1923)

[*G.O. No. 1176, Development, dated the 26th June 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Mineral Production*]

Output

159. As in the previous year, mining was carried on only in the districts of Vizagapatam, Nellore, Anantapur, Kurnool, Bellary and Salem, the minerals raised being manganese, magnesite, mica, steatite, barytes, gold and silver. No diamonds were extracted during the year. In the Nellore district "open cast" continued to be the most common method of mining, tunnels being cut in only fourteen mines. There was a considerable increase in the production of manganese, the output being 25,112 tons as against 10,845 tons in the previous year. Of these, 2,588 tons were raised in the Thambaraguddi reserve and in the Alagilawada reserve of the Bellary district. The output of magnesite increased from 18,417 tons to 19,336 tons owing to the larger quantity won from the Government Hills quarries of the Salem Magnesite Syndicate. The output of mica increased from 83 tons to 499 tons. There was an increased demand for the "Ruby" quality mica mined in the Nellore district but the demand for other qualities showed little improvement. The mica mines in the Tiruchengōdu taluk of the Salem district were abandoned during the year. As in the previous year, two gold mines were at work. From a total quantity of 1,400 tons of quartz mined during the year 1,518·91 ounces (troy) of gold and 103·42 ounces (troy) of silver were extracted as against 8,388 ounces (troy) of gold and 554 ounces (troy) of silver, respectively, in the previous year. The decrease in the output of gold during the year was mainly due to the fact that, consequent on the carrying out of development work, work in the Jubitil mine was restricted to five months of the year. Seventy-seven tons of steatite were raised from the quarry at Sydapuram and the mine at Jogipalli in the Nellore district.

General condition of the employees

160. Salem, Kurnool, Vizagapatam and Anantapur were free from epidemics during the year. In one of the mines in the Nellore district two cases of smallpox occurred, one of which proved fatal. The general health of the employees in all the mines was good.

Wages

There was no general increase in the contract rates of wages paid by the Vizianagram Mining Company during the year. In Anantapur, there was a slight increase in the wages of the maistris and in the maximum rates paid to surface coolies. The rates of wages at the Jubitil gold mines remained the same as in the previous year. The minimum wages of surface coolies and mechanics at the North Anantapur gold mines, however, decreased slightly.

Employment of women and children

In Nellore, both women and children were employed, mostly above ground.

Accidents

161. One person was killed and three were seriously injured in the mines of the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, Sūramangalam. There was a fall of an overburden at a mine in the Kalichedu shrotriyam, Nellore district, but there was no loss of life. One fatal accident occurred in the manganese mine at Garbham in Vizagapatam. There were no accidents in Anantapur, Kurnool and Bellary.

MANUFACTURES (1923-24)

[*Statement of Cotton and Jute Mills at work in the Presidency during the year 1923-24 (G.O. No. 1180, Development, dated the 27th June 1924); Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act during the year 1923 (G.O. No. 1282, Development, dated the 14th July 1924); Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1923-24; Report on the Government Cinchona Department, Madras, for 1923-24: Statistical Abstract for British India—Industries*]

Cotton and jute mills (1923-24)

162. Exclusive of establishments in Travancore, Cochin and the French Settlements there were seventeen cotton mills at work during the year as against fifteen in 1922-23. The total number of looms and spindles in all cotton mills rose from 3,714 and 481,584 to 3,734 and 517,706,

respectively. No new jute mills were erected but the number of looms and spindles in the existing mills was increased from 496 and 11,088 to 565 and 12,912, respectively. Cotton mills afforded employment to 35,381 operatives, and jute mills to 4,639.

Other industries

163. At the close of the year 1923 the number of factories, other than cotton and jute mills, coming under the amended Indian Factories Act in the Madras Presidency was 710, of which 637 were perennial and 73 seasonal. The number of such factories, therefore, increased during the year by 157. The average daily number of operatives employed in these factories was 66,442 as against 63,127 in 1922, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. The chief industries carried on in factories subject to the operation of the Factories Act were railway engineering, rice milling, tile manufacture, printing, the manufacture of coffee and sugar, rope making, tanning, the tinning of kerosene oil, the manufacture of tobacco, bone and oil milling, metal founding and the manufacture of tea. A match factory with modern machinery capable of turning out 100,000 boxes per day started production during the year.

Factories (1923)

164. The administration of the Indian Factories Act continued to be under the control of the Commissioner of Labour. There were 769 registered factories in existence at the beginning of the year and 1,023 on the register at the end of the year. Of these factories, 670 were perennial and 353 seasonal, 33 perennial and 280 seasonal factories being connected with the cotton industry. Of the 267 factories registered during the year, cotton ginning factories (86), rice mills (74) and tea factories (27) formed the largest categories. The number of factories that were actually working during the year was 986. These gave daily employment on an average to 115,158 workers as against 110,193 in 1922, the increase being due to the increase in the number of factories. Of the 115,158 operatives, 6,129 were employed in Government and Local Fund factories. The number of women employed during the year rose from 20,355 to 23,101 and the number of boys and girls fell from 4,775 to 4,485 and from 2,549 to 2,322, respectively. The decrease in child labour is to be attributed to the enforcement of the restrictions on child labour. Of the 986 factories actually working, 606 were inspected once, 339 twice and 24 thrice, the total number of inspections being 1,356 as against 1,126 in 1922. In addition, 360 unregistered factories were visited with a view to bring them under the operation of the Act. One hundred and eighteen night visits, 112 Sunday visits and 46 other surprise visits were made. The health of operatives was generally good. In the 27 newly registered tea factories, dispensaries or hospitals were provided. In two other factories, first-aid appliances were available and dispensaries were provided in another two. The sanitation of factories was on the whole satisfactory though prosecutions had to be initiated in six cases. Wages fluctuated slightly in different districts and trades. There were 12 strikes during the year, none of which were of an abnormal nature. Their duration lasted from 15 minutes to 15 days, 3,044 operatives out of 8,139 in the factories affected actually going on strike. In nine cases the strike collapsed, in two the strikers' demands were granted, and in another some of the workers returned unconditionally while some left the factory. There were 13 fires during the year causing damage estimated at Rs. 2,05,004, but there was no loss of life or injury to any person. The number of accidents that occurred during the year was 938 as against 881 in 1922, the average per 100 rising from ·80 to ·81. There was a substantial decrease in the number of fatal accidents but an increase in the number of serious accidents. Of the 8 fatal and 41 serious accidents, 6 and 14, respectively, were caused by mechanically driven machinery. The occupiers and managers of 30 factories, 34 persons in all, were prosecuted for evasions of the provisions of the Act. Thirty persons were convicted and sentenced to fines ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 800. The importance of welfare work was realized by many firms. Two firms introduced a provident fund. An elected welfare committee was organized in the Cordite Factory,

Aruvankadu. Tiffin rooms were provided in five and washing places in nine factories in Madras City, while five of the tea factories and the Government Fisheries Experimental Station, Tānūr, provided schools for the education of their employees' children.

Industries (1923-24)

165. The Statutory Board of Industries was constituted in February 1924 under the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922, and held its first meeting in March 1924. Seven applications for assistance were considered and appropriate recommendations were made to Government. The committee appointed by Government to conduct an examination into the steps which are desirable to further the development of the leather industry submitted its report in November 1923. A committee was also appointed to obtain the necessary material for introducing a revised Apprenticeship Bill. The Department of Industries took part in a number of industrial and agricultural exhibitions held in various parts of the Presidency. It was also adequately represented in the Madras Court of the Indian Pavilion at the British Empire Exhibition. Continuous aid to the public and to other Government departments was rendered by the Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information and a number of inquiries in regard to overseas trade from the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, and the general public were answered. A number of analyses were again carried out for private parties. Among the samples submitted was a sample of exceptionally good asbestos and the owner of the sample was advised to exploit the deposit and was put in touch with firms interested in the asbestos trade. Financial reasons hindered the establishment of a cement industry at Bezwada which the department was endeavouring to establish and no good results were obtained from the boring for coal in the Kistna and Gōdāvari districts. The development of granite quarries of Sholingūr was hindered by the cost of obtaining railway facilities. An attempt to develop the local market for "palampores" was unsuccessful, but a trial consignment was ordered by a British firm and a quantity was sent to the British Empire Exhibition. The question of producing cheaper prints for the local market was also investigated. A comprehensive exhibit of lace was also sent to the British Empire Exhibition. The possibilities of developing the copra, coconut oil and coir industries on the east coast of the Presidency were under investigation during the year. Sir Frederick Nicholson who, as stated in the administration report for 1922-23, was studying the toy industry in England, has himself undertaken the establishment of an experimental toy factory at Coonoor. An inquiry into the commercial possibilities of sugar manufacture from coconut jaggery led to an adverse conclusion. The Industrial Chemist visited Madras, Salem, Vellore and Coimbatore during the year. The main inquiry on which he was engaged was that connected with the retting of coconut husk and this was practically completed. Experiments in malting cholam on a large scale were conducted in co-operation with the Department of Agriculture. The investigation upon prickly-pear was completed but the value placed upon the paper-making material obtained from "Lantana" was lower than the probable cost of manufacture. Some experiments were also made in the preservation of rubber latex, but no new process was discovered. Numerous inquiries relating to dyes and other agents or processes were answered and proposals for reorganizing the Dye House at the Central Jail, Vellore, were submitted. The new factory buildings for the Kerala Soap Institute were completed during the year, but operations were practically suspended for five months while the machinery and plant were being erected. In spite of this, production expanded from 204 to 248 tons. The sales of soap amounted to 191 tons 10 cwt. valued at Rs. 1,33,554, a considerable decline as compared with the previous year. The reduction in turn-over was due partly to adverse trade conditions but mainly to the severe competition of cheap and colourable imitations of its products. A new sales system was introduced and some large contracts were acquired towards the end of the year. The profit and loss statement showed a net loss of Rs. 9,939-8-5 on the year's working as against a loss of Rs. 23,320-12-5 incurred in 1922-23.

General assistance

Industrial research

Chemical research

Government establishments

The Government Industrial Institute, Madras, which is now exclusively devoted to the manufacture of ink, showed a profit of Rs. 2,796-7-6 on the year's working. It was fully employed in complying with orders received from large and small consumers. The result of the year's working of the Fruit Preserving Institute was a loss of Rs. 23,158-8-5, and the future policy in regard to the factory was under the consideration of Government at the close of the year. The Government Glue Factory was closed for five months during the year and was worked at a total loss of Rs. 17,566-2-4. The loss was attributable to the difficulty experienced in finding a market for the glue even at competitive prices for an outturn sufficiently large to make the factory pay. The Sugarcane Crushing Factory at Pallapālaiyam worked at a profit and sufficiently demonstrated the success and economy of power-crushing. The organization of the ten peripatetic weaving parties was the same as last year, nine teaching methods and one being engaged in the construction of apparatus. The demand for new appliances was generally found to be greater in villages previously visited by weaving parties, where weavers had been fully convinced of the advantages of their introduction, than in villages visited for the first time. Sericultural operations were reorganized during the year. The demonstration silkworm rearing farm at Kamakarai near Singanallar was closed and in its place a peripatetic rearing party was established; to the hill farm at Coonoor were assigned the functions of a central distribution station for eggs, seeds, cuttings and seedlings and of a research institute for the silk industry of the Presidency; and for the development of the industry outside the Kollegal taluk of Coimbatore district, which is the only place in which sericulture is an established industry, the Silk Superintendent was deputed to various selected localities to assist private persons in establishing mulberry plantations. The number of loans granted for the purpose of installing pumping machinery was 11 as against 9 in the previous year, and the total amount sanctioned for this purpose was Rs. 73,000. Fifty-one installations of pumping or industrial machinery were undertaken by the department and 383 plants were maintained by them at the owners' cost as against 39 and 286, respectively, in the previous year. The demand for power drills was very great, but it was found possible to cope with only a few of these applications with the machinery available. The total depth bored was 24,180 feet as against 20,640 feet in the previous year, the average depth of a boring being 39 feet. Owing to severe drought in many parts of the Presidency the demand for pumping sets was also very great, not only for agricultural purposes but in connexion with municipal water-supplies. The survey of under-ground water-supplies was continued, about 275 miles of levels were taken and 185 borings were connected with mean sea level. The total receipts of the engineering section of the department amounted to Rs. 90,442-5-3 as against Rs. 52,077-10-10 for the previous year, while the charges decreased from Rs. 2,44,297-6-8 to Rs. 2,13,526-2-0.

Sericulture

Pumping and boring

166. The manufacture of quinine continued to be conducted by Government with satisfactory results. The accounts were maintained on a strictly commercial basis and were audited by a well-known firm of commercial auditors, while the selling price of the goods was adjusted to follow the rates in the open market. The profit on the year's working was Rs. 2,33,056, a figure smaller than last year, owing mainly to the fall in the market rate. One of the persistent problems which had to be faced was that of getting a sufficient supply of cinchona bark to keep the factory working at its full capacity. To solve this problem it was proposed to open cinchona plantation on the Anamalais. The question was investigated during the year and definite proposals were under the consideration of Government. During the year 878,000 lb. of cinchona bark were treated, a yield of 22,856 lb. of quinine sulphate, 6,905 lb. of quinine bi-sulphate. 220 lb. of quinine hydrochloride, 240 lb. of quinine bi-hydrochloride and 17,442 lb. of malarene being obtained. As a result of the successful trial in the Madras hospitals

Manufacture of quinine (1923-24)

of malarene, there were large demands for this drug. This drug was manufactured at less than half the price of quinine and proved, in many cases, to be more efficacious. The policy of harvesting just as much cinchona bark from the Government plantations as would cover the working expenses and other charges was continued and altogether 261,379 lb. of bark were thus taken. The uprooted areas were planted up as far as possible with *cinchona robusta*, which yielded ordinarily about 6 to 9 per cent of alkaloids.

Industrial education

167. A State technical scholarship which fell vacant in the previous year was awarded for the study of textile chemistry and arrangements were made for the holder to study for the degree of Master of Science and to obtain a thorough training in bleaching and dyeing at the Manchester College of Technology. Three further scholarships which fell vacant during the year were awarded for the study of the practice and chemistry of leather manufacture, the manufacture of standard food products and electro-metallurgy, respectively. Two former scholarship-holders obtained suitable appointments on their return to India. At the end of the year there were eleven scholarship-holders from this Presidency at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Four new scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, were awarded. Sixty new scholarships tenable at industrial schools were also granted. The Madura Industrial Institute and the Madras Trades School maintained their efficiency. The branch of the Trades School attached to the Railway Workshops at Perambūr had 127 students on its rolls. The six students who completed the senior apprenticeship course all obtained suitable employment in the Railway Workshops. A certain number of workmen were also trained in the workshops of the Industrial Engineering Department. The Leather Trades Institute continued both educational and research work. The number of industrial schools recognized by the Department of Industries was 46, of which all except two were aided by grants from public funds to the extent of Rs. 67,450-12-0. The number of pupils under training was 2,198 as against 1,928 in the previous year. The finances of many of these institutions continued to suffer from a decrease in the amount of contributions from abroad. The average number of students on the rolls of the School of Arts and Crafts rose from 259 to 337 and the average attendance from 191 to 240. There were 20 women students on the rolls. The percentage of successes obtained in the various Government Technical Examinations rose from 58 per cent to 68 per cent. A small collection of school work was sent to the British Empire Exhibition though no funds were provided for this purpose. Seven pupils who left the school during the year obtained suitable work.

Aided schools

School of Arts and Crafts

Finance

168. The net cost of the Department of Industries further declined by Rs. 57,245-4-1 to Rs. 6,62,899-0-0. The decrease in the net cost was partly due to the reduction of expenditure under the heads of "Direction," "Headquarters Engineering Branch" and "Government Industrial Institute, Madura" and partly to an increase in receipts from the Weaving Branch, the Pumping and Boring Branch and from certain industrial schools.

LABOUR (1923-24)

[*Report on the administration of the Labour Department for the year 1923-24*]

General

169. The work of the Labour Department, a department still organized on a temporary basis, continued to cover the same field as in the previous year. The Commissioner of Labour was also responsible for the administration of the Factories and Emigration Acts reviewed in separate paragraphs.

170. The labour situation remained calm. Various unions showed signs of activity during the year, but the majority confined their activities to periods when there was a likelihood of a trade dispute. The Labour Advisory Board met during the year to consider certain amendments to the Factories Act. Special efforts were made by the Labour and Employment Bureau to assist overseas men, South African repatriates and members of the depressed classes in obtaining employment. **Labour**

171. The work of the department was conducted by the agency of special staffs in nine districts of the Presidency as against three in the previous year. An extent of 200 acres of land was acquired for the provision of house-sites for the depressed classes at a cost of Rs. 2,23,000. Poramboke lands also, where available for this purpose, were converted into house-sites. Further large areas of land were also granted to individuals or leased out on favourable terms to co-operative societies. Two hundred and thirty-three such societies were organized during the year, the total number in existence at the year's end being 649. A gratifying feature of these societies is that they are repaying their loans with the utmost regularity. There were 317 labour schools at the beginning of the year and 177 schools were started during the year. Towards the end of the year Government sanctioned the grant of 400 scholarships and 135 fee remissions, and 281 scholarships were actually awarded. A hostel for students belonging to the depressed classes was opened on the 1st December 1923. One hundred and fifty-three new wells were constructed under the supervision of the departmental staff and 149 wells and 5 tanks were repaired, grants to the extent of Rs. 67,775 being made to Collectors, local boards and municipalities for a similar purpose. Pathways, bridges and burial-grounds were also provided. The depressed classes had at least one member to represent their interests on every district board except three, but there were still large numbers of taluk boards and municipal councils where they had no representative. The work of reclaiming the Kallars in Madura district made wonderful progress. There were 300 schools and 138 co-operative societies working at the end of the year. The short-term loans advanced by the societies are being repaid with the greatest regularity and punctuality. The women also were induced to take a keen interest in this work. **Depressed classes** **Kallars**

172. The five settlements under the management of the Salvation Army worked satisfactorily during the year. The Pallāvaram Settlement obtained an order for sandals from the Police Department which provided work for six months. An extent of 395 acres of over-grown lanka was leased to the Sitanagaram Settlement of which 50 acres were reclaimed and brought under cultivation. The landholding population in the Aziznagar Settlement increased from 75 per cent to 83 per cent Compulsory education for the children was enforced in each settlement. Ninety-six children were placed in an industrial school at Perambūr under the management of the Salvation Army. In February 1924 an exhibition of the articles manufactured in the Salvation Army settlements and by the Kallars was held in Madras, which attracted a large number of visitors. **Criminal tribes settlements**

173. A sum of Rs. 7,52,000 was allotted to the Labour Department during the year against Rs. 4,86,000 last year. Of this sum, Rs. 1,87,500 were appropriated for free grants and Rs. 1,57,500 for educational charges for depressed classes. A further sum of Rs. 4,75,000 was separately provided under "Loans" for the acquisition of house-sites. Of these amounts, Rs. 1,44,419 were expended for free grants, and Rs. 1,40,400 for education, and Rs. 2,78,000 for loans, as against Rs. 1,02,991, Rs. 87,043 and Rs. 3,00,857, respectively, in 1922-23. The entire amount provided for the expenditure during the year under the head "Loans" could not be spent owing to the great delay involved in the acquisition of house-sites by the new procedure laid down by the Land Acquisition Amendment Act which came into force on the 1st January 1924. **Finance**

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1923–24)

[*Review of the Sea-borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1923–24; Annual Volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistical Abstract for British India—Foreign Trade and Shipping; Review of the Trade of India; Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India; Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 Vols.; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India*]

General summary

174. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the Presidency was Rs. 89·06 crores, an increase of Rs. 8·08 crores, or 10 per cent, as compared with the previous year. The commercial depression in Europe generally restricted India's outlet for produce and in turn diminished her purchasing power. The slow recovery of trade and the fall in prices of the imported articles resulted in a decline under import values, but the volume of the export trade continued to expand under the stimulus of high prices in the consuming countries, especially towards the close of 1923.

Foreign trade

175. The total value of the foreign trade in private merchandise increased by Rs. 5·65 crores, or 11 per cent, as compared with the previous year. Imports valued at Rs. 19·23 crores were 1·06 crores or 5 per cent less than in 1922–23, while exports increased by Rs. 6·71 crores, or 23 per cent. to Rs. 35·60 crores.

Foreign imports

The decrease under imports was mainly due to smaller receipts of railway materials, machinery, metals, instruments, raw silk and precious stones, the chief items showing increases being tobacco, mineral oils, drugs and medicines, cotton manufactures, sugar, motor-vehicles, provisions, and raw hides and skins. There was a decrease of Rs. 102·27 lakhs in the imports of railway materials, as there were considerable stocks available from previous years' purchases for railway requirements and large orders were also placed in India for supply of certain railway materials of iron and steel manufactured in India. The decrease of Rs. 44·40 lakhs under machinery was due to smaller demand for cotton spinning and weaving machinery and jute machinery. Under metals, the decrease occurred mainly under iron and steel (— Rs. 17·42 lakhs), due to smaller arrivals of bars and channel from Belgium and Germany owing to the occupation of the Ruhr district by the French and constant fluctuations in exchange causing unsteady prices. Imports of tobacco increased by Rs. 21·85 lakhs due to larger supplies from the United States of tobacco leaf for the manufacture of cigarettes in Southern India and those of mineral oils by Rs. 17·89 lakhs as a result of increased consumption of kerosene oil stimulated by a fall in price.

Foreign exports

Under cotton manufactures the increase amounted to Rs. 6·75 lakhs, white and coloured goods showing an increase and grey goods a decrease. The year began with large stocks, especially under grey goods and at the end of April prices were steady in sympathy with the firm tone of the Manchester market. At the end of June fluctuations in cotton prices and the uncertainty consequent thereon proved a hindrance to forward business. November saw some slight improvement and prices rose, due to speculation in the local market brought about by the enhanced prices quoted by Lancashire for replacements. Towards the close of the year a little more interest was shown in forward business but, with a firm Manchester market and declining exchange, orders were only booked with difficulty. Under improved political conditions the general trend of trade was more towards finer cloths. The increase of Rs. 6·71 crores under exports was caused by heavier shipments of raw cotton, tea, leather, sugar, grain and pulse, coffee, raw rubber, cotton manufactures, tobacco and raw hides and skins, partly set off by smaller shipments of seeds, postal articles and spices. There was an increase of Rs. 335·75 lakhs, or 134 per cent, in the value of raw cotton exported. This was due partly to larger local out-turn and partly to the acute shortage and high prices of American cotton which caused increased demand in the Far East, the

United Kingdom and continental countries for Indian cotton. Increased production of tea, owing to favourable weather conditions coupled with larger demand from London on account of depletion of stocks, resulted in larger shipments of tea, which rose by Rs. 84·48 lakhs or 42 per cent The increase of Rs. 81·60 lakhs under leather was brought about by large consignments of tanned cow hides to the United Kingdom, the increased demand being due to the greatly improved position of the leather trade consequent on the clearance of the accumulations of leather bought by Government for war purposes. Owing to the world shortage of sugar and the high level of prices of sugar generally, there was an abnormal demand for Madras sugar, the exports of which rose from Rs. 6 82 lakhs to Rs 78·29 lakhs in value. There was an increase of Rs. 34·06 lakhs under grain and pulse as a result of larger shipments of Madras rice of good quality to Ceylon, stimulated by a fall in price. The export of coffee, consisting mainly of the bumper crop of 1922–23, rose by Rs. 32 96 lakhs, the demand from the European countries being very large. Owing to less restriction in tapping, there was larger production of rubber available for export and consequently shipments improved by Rs. 24·11 lakhs. The fall of Rs. 26·16 lakhs under seeds was the net result of smaller shipments of copra and groundnuts partly set off by larger shipments of castor seeds. The total value of re-exports amounted to Rs. 34·05 lakhs as against Rs. 49·72 lakhs.

Government transactions

176. The total value of Government stores imported and exported amounted to Rs. 48·41 lakhs and Rs. 2·45 lakhs, respectively, as compared with Rs. 50·41 lakhs and Rs. 1·50 lakhs in the previous year. Under imports, telegraph materials decreased by Rs. 5·12 lakhs, paper and pasteboard by Rs. 2·30 lakhs, and sundries by Rs. 5·07 lakhs, while stationery, machinery and woollen piece-goods improved by Rs. 5·66 lakhs, Rs. 3·98 lakhs and Rs. 1·68 lakhs, respectively.

Treasure

177. Imports of treasure amounted to Rs. 84·59 lakhs as against Rs. 22·94 lakhs. Imports of gold, consisting mainly of sovereigns from Western Australia, Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, amounted to Rs. 76·94 lakhs, and imports of silver, chiefly made up of bar silver from the United Kingdom and Government of India rupees from the Straits Settlements, were valued at Rs. 7·65 lakhs. Exports of treasure, consisting chiefly of Government of India rupees, to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States were valued at Rs. 31·45 lakhs.

Trade by countries

178. The trade with the United Kingdom represented 41·7 per cent of the aggregate trade of the Presidency as compared with 43·9 per cent in 1922–23 and expanded by Rs. 1·28 crores, or 6 per cent, to Rs. 22·87 crores in value. The trade with the British Empire was 61 per cent of the total trade as against 64 per cent in the previous year and that with foreign countries 39 per cent, Europe claiming 25 per cent, Asia 8 per cent and America 6 per cent, as against 24, 6 and 6 per cent, respectively, in 1922–23.

Coasting trade

179. The aggregate value of the coasting trade improved from Rs. 31·04 crores to Rs. 32·57 crores, or by 5 per cent. Imports of Indian merchandise improved from Rs. 1,673·34 lakhs to Rs. 1,773·71 lakhs, and those of foreign merchandise from Rs. 243·20 lakhs to Rs. 274·35 lakhs. Exports of Indian and foreign merchandise amounted to Rs. 1,164·44 lakhs and Rs. 19·01 lakhs as against Rs. 1,152·06 lakhs and Rs. 12·46 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year.

Trade by ports

180. The value of the sea-borne trade on private account at the port of Madras represented 44 per cent of the total trade of the Presidency as compared with 46 per cent in the previous year and amounted to Rs. 3,918·45 lakhs as against Rs. 3,658·49 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 259·96 lakhs or 7 per cent. Foreign trade improved from Rs. 2,888·17 lakhs to Rs. 3,115·81 lakhs or by 8 per cent. The total foreign trade of the outports improved from Rs. 2,054·53 lakhs to Rs. 2,482·80 lakhs. Tuticorin maintained its premier position among outports. With the exception of

Cuddalore, Badagara, Porto Novo, Bimlipatam and Kulasēkarapatnam, which showed a diminished trade, all ports experienced increased trade.

Shipping

Foreign trade

181. The total number of vessels entered from, and cleared to, foreign countries increased from 2,678 to 2,801 and their tonnage from 3·42 million tons to 3·54 million tons. British vessels accounted for 73 per cent of the whole tonnage and British Indian and Native craft 3 per cent. The tonnage of foreign vessels rose from 18 to 24 per cent. The freight rates on general cargo underwent an all-round rise of 5*s.* on 15th March 1924. In the case of groundnuts to Marseilles the highest rate was 32*s.* 6*d.* and this prevailed both at the beginning and at the end of the year. The lowest rate was 22*s.* 6*d.* to which it fell by the middle of August.

Coasting trade

The number of entries from coasting ports rose from 17,089 vessels aggregating 6,790,667 tons to 17,453 vessels of 7,042,168 tons. The number of clearances to coasting ports was 17,515 of 7,088,474 tons as against 17,332 of 6,725,621 tons in 1922–23. Twenty vessels aggregating 880 tons were built and registered during the year, the previous year's figures being 17 vessels of 550 tons.

Miscellaneous

182. The total revenue receipts for the Presidency rose from Rs. 316·12 lakhs to Rs. 317·54 lakhs or by 0·45 per cent. The total disbursements of the Customs Department throughout the Presidency amounted to Rs. 14·93 lakhs as compared with Rs. 12·85 lakhs in 1922–23. The number of cases dealt with under the Sea Customs Act (including those under the Merchandise Marks Act) during the year was 1,440 as against 1,363 in the previous year. Of these, 581 cases occurred at Madras and 859 at outports. There were seven cases of smuggling of jewellery—5 at Madras and 2 at Dhanushkodi. There was a case of smuggling at Dhanushkodi of diamonds through the letter post in a small tin box concealed in a note book. There were many cases of smuggling of gold thread and matches at the land frontiers of Pondicherry and Karikal.

PUBLIC WORKS

GENERAL (1923-24)

[*Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1923–24*]

Administrative changes

183. Owing to further retrenchment one more circle of superintendence, the Third Circle, Bellary, was abolished and its divisions were added to the Fifth Circle, Madras, which, on the other hand, gave up some of its divisions to other circles. The remaining five circles, as thus reconstituted, were named after their headquarters, as the Waltair, Bezwada, Madras, Coimbatore and Trichinopoly Circles. The appointment of Deputy Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, was also abolished. An officer was placed on special duty in connexion with the Sangamēswaram and the Cauvery-Metur Reservoir projects. The revision of the administrative orders of Government relating to the Public Works Department Accounts was also taken up during the year by another special officer in collaboration with an Accounts officer.

Chief Engineer's office

Consulting Architect's section

184. The Consulting Architect's section was engaged in its normal work of preparing drawings and estimates for buildings. Hospital buildings occupied a large share of the year's work. One of the most noteworthy designs prepared in the section was the design for the combined hospitals and the Hall of Victory on the Marina. The value of the work for which estimates were prepared was about Rs. 30½ lakhs. The Special Consulting Architect, whose designation was changed to that of Deputy Consulting Architect, continued to work during the year. The value of work designed in his section, exclusive of educational schemes, amounted to more than Rs. 24 lakhs. Eighty-eight plans in connexion with educational buildings were scrutinized and drawings were prepared in

seventeen cases. In the Technical Section, 97 estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 111·98 lakhs were scrutinized. Of these, 54, totalling Rs. 28·83 lakhs, related to buildings ; 15, totalling Rs. 29·82 lakhs, to water-supply ; 8, totalling Rs. 18·65 lakhs, to drainage ; 11, totalling Rs. 18·22 lakhs, to bridges and causeways ; and 6, totalling Rs. 4·26 lakhs, to roads. There were in addition three miscellaneous schemes of a value of Rs. 12·19 lakhs. Among the works for which estimates were prepared, 29 were estimated to cost over a lakh of rupees each. A welcome activity in electrical engineering was apparent throughout the Presidency. The standard of supply in Madras City was improved and the consumption of energy increased by over 20 per cent. A licence for the supply of energy to the town of Madura was granted to the Madura Municipal Council. A hydro-electric licence for the area covered by the Trichinopoly district was also granted during the year, while the Government had under consideration the development of several other hydro-electric schemes in the Presidency. The Electrical Engineer scrutinized 202 estimates of an aggregate value of Rs. 4·03 lakhs. As many as 141 works were undertaken by Government and the expenditure on original works was Rs. 1·34 lakhs as against Rs. 1·03 lakhs in the previous year. The total value of all the Government installations in charge of this department was Rs 19·88 lakhs as against Rs. 18·54 lakhs in the previous year and the amount spent on their maintenance was Rs. 1·02 lakhs as against Rs. 1·15 lakhs. The reduction in maintenance charges, in spite of the increase in the number and size of the installations, was due to economies effected during the year and to the general fall in the price of electrical materials.

Technical section

Electrical section

CIVIL WORKS (1923-24)

185. The total expenditure on civil works for the year, including expenditure from contributions and on minor works and repairs, was Rs. 73·36 lakhs as against Rs. 68·07 lakhs in the previous year. The total expenditure on the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, to the end of the year was Rs. 6·09 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 6·18 lakhs. Good progress was made in the construction of a cattle farm at Chintaladevi and the construction of quarters for the Armed Reserve Police and Town Police at Nellore, the total expenditure to the end of the year being Rs. 2·11 lakhs and Rs. 1·08 lakhs as against the estimated costs of Rs. 2·15 lakhs and Rs. 1·32 lakhs, respectively. A sum of Rs. 1·28 lakhs was spent on the construction of the hostel for the Madras University Students' Club, Madras, the total expenditure being Rs. 1·24 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 1·64 lakhs. The work which was started in February 1923 made steady progress during the year and was practically completed in February 1924. The hostel was named after His Excellency Lord Willingdon who opened the building. The total expenditure on the new Rāyapuram Hospital and subsidiary buildings to the end of the year was Rs. 11·64 lakhs out of an estimated cost of Rs. 12·73 lakhs. The expenditure during the year on the Leper Settlement at Chingleput was Rs. 1·33 lakhs as against the estimate of Rs. 1·35 lakhs so far sanctioned. The total cost of the works was estimated at Rs 5 lakhs. A good deal of attention was paid to this important work, which was commenced during the year, with the result that by the end of March 1924 there was very marked progress and many of the buildings completed. Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon formally opened the buildings in March 1924. The outlay during the year on the buildings for the Madras Trades School was Rs. 1·21 lakhs, while a sum of Rs. ·79 lakh was spent on extensions to the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore. The total expenditure to the end of the year on the construction of a hostel for the medical students at Tanjore and the construction of quarters for the Armed Reserve Police at Trichinopoly was Rs. ·42 lakh and Rs. ·54 lakh, respectively. The water-supply schemes for the towns of Anantapur, Chingelput and Adōni and the improvements to the Madura water-works were in progress during the year. A sum of

Works in progress

Buildings

Water-supply and drainage

Rs. 4·20 lakhs was spent on the Madura drainage scheme during the year, bringing the total outlay to the end of the year to Rs. 32·20 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs 38·21 lakhs. The total outlay on the Vellore drainage works to the end of the year was Rs. 4·63 lakhs Other minor water-supply and drainage works, involving an outlay of Rs. ·20 lakh, were also in progress during the year.

Workshops

186. The value of the work of every kind done during the year in the Dowlaishwaram workshops amounted to Rs. 1·39 lakhs as against Rs 1 51 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease, as in the previous year, being due to restricted expenditure. In the Bezwada workshops the value of the work turned out was Rs. ·49 lakh as against Rs. ·67 lakh in the previous year, the decrease in this case being due to the paucity of works in general in the shops. There was a slight increase in the outturn in the workshops at Madras, the value of the work done being Rs. 2·53 lakhs as against Rs. 2·33 lakhs in the previous year, but the effects of retrenchment due to financial stringency continued to be noticeable during the year.

TRAMWAYS (1923-24)

187. The route mileage operated upon by the Madras Electric Tramways during the year remained the same as in 1922-23. The line equipment is throughout on the overhead trolley system suspended by side or centre poles. The current was obtained from the Madras Electric Supply Corporation and the power station plant was kept in reserve. The rolling-stock consisted of 82 motor cars, one special car and one road-metal carrying car, but the average daily number of cars in service was 64, i.e., four less than that of the previous year. One car was reconstructed during the year. The system of running trailer-cars was discontinued. The car mileage rose from 1,803,543 miles to 2,087,867 miles and the number of passengers also increased from 17,530,998 to 18,425,185.

CANALS (1923-24)

188. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Dumagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vēdāranniyam canals. Excluding the West Coast canals for which figures are not available the total direct receipts amounted to Rs. 2·85 lakhs, or Rs. 0·07 lakh more than in the previous year. The increase occurred chiefly under the Buckingham canal and was due to larger revenue being realized under "Miscellaneous" receipts.

IRRIGATION (1923-24)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Irrigation*]

Gross expenditure and revenue

189. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works rose by Rs. 7·35 lakhs to Rs. 90·29 lakhs but the revenue derived therefrom fell from Rs. 285·10 lakhs to Rs. 273·78 lakhs, the area charged as irrigated being 6,891,136 acres, or 444,366 acres less than in 1922-23. The decrease in the area irrigated was due to the unfavourable character of the season. Productive works showed a return of 13·70 per cent on the capital as compared with 12·77 per cent in the previous year and 8·83 per cent twenty-five years ago, i.e., in 1898-99.

Irrigation works

190. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (*a*) Irrigation works and (*b*) Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works, each class being subdivided into "Productive" and "Unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years. The

Productive

capital outlay on "Irrigation Works—Productive" (direct and indirect) rose from Rs. 6·74 lakhs to Rs. 10·74 lakhs and was incurred chiefly on the Gōdāvari delta, the Divi Pumping and the Cauvery delta systems and the Toludur project, the last of which was opened by His Excellency the

Governor on the 8th September 1923. In the Gōdāvari delta system progress was made in carrying out the improvements to the Kovvur-Manjair Junction canal, the Ainapur drain and the upper portion of the Yenamadurru drain. In the Divi Pumping system another engine and pump was erected, making nine in all. The improvements to Lawford's straight cut, the construction of a regulator across the Korayar and the reconstruction of the Thoppadanaveli dam were the important works in progress in the Cauvery delta system. The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,192,022 acres and 473,557 acres, respectively, as against 3,219,911 acres and 477,674 acres in the previous year. The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 180·98 lakhs and Rs. 36·84 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 173·76 lakhs and Rs. 37·64 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 97·19 lakhs as against Rs. 89·21 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 13·70 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 7·09 crores as against 12·77 per cent in 1922–23. After deducting interest charges the profit for the year was Rs. 74·60 lakhs as against Rs. 67·17 lakhs in the previous year and the accumulated profits to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 24·34 crores. Compared with the previous year the gross revenue showed an increase of Rs. 7·22 lakhs, which occurred chiefly under the Gōdāvari and the Cauvery delta systems. The increase under the former system was due to a rise in the extent under second crop cultivation. The introduction of the re-settlement rates in the Tanjore district accounted for the increase under the Cauvery delta system. There was a fall of Rs. 0·80 lakh under "working expenses," which occurred chiefly under "establishment charges" and was due to retrenchment. The capital outlay on "irrigation works—unproductive (direct and indirect)" was Rs. 0·08 lakh, incurred chiefly on the Rushikulya system. The area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 266,749 acres and 22,585 acres, respectively, as against 267,695 acres and 24,824 acres in the previous year. The gross revenue and working expenses inclusive of old irrigation revenue and old maintenance charges amounted to Rs. 10·21 lakhs and Rs. 3·75 lakhs as against Rs. 10·30 lakhs and Rs. 4·0 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 4·56 lakhs. After deducting interest charges the deficit for the year was Rs. 8·83 lakhs. The remissions granted under "productive" and "unproductive" works were Rs. 3,69,327 and Rs. 47,669, respectively, as against Rs. 1,28,636 and Rs. 15,104 in the previous year. The areas mainly affected were the Gōdāvari delta and the Pālār anicut systems under the former class and the Rushikulya system and the Barur tank under the latter.

Revenue and working expenses (productive works)

Unproductive

Revenue and working expenses (unproductive works)

Remissions

191. There were three works classed as "unproductive navigation works," viz., the Ganjām-Gopalpūr canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 80,200 and Rs. 2,98,884, respectively, as against Rs. 75,637 and Rs. 2,81,118 in the previous year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,18,684 to Government on the working of the canals as against Rs. 2,05,481 in 1922–23. Heavy expenditure was incurred on the clearance of silt in the Buckingham canal and in closing the breaches in the canal banks caused by the exceptionally heavy rains in 1922.

Navigation works—Unproductive

192. The outlay on this class of works including that incurred by civil officers and accounted for by the Civil Department was Rs. 32·26 lakhs as against Rs. 28·44 lakhs in the previous year. The area charged as irrigated fell from 3,345,398 acres to 2,936,223 acres and the revenue, inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works Department, was Rs. 81·10 lakhs as against Rs. 99·51 lakhs in the previous year, the decrease being due to the fall in the extent irrigated owing to the unfavourable character of the season. The total area coming within the scope of Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year an area of 947 square miles of minor basins was entered upon and 726 square miles investigated, bringing up the totals to 90,275 square miles and 84,335 square miles, respectively. Works were completed for 76,736 square miles of the area investigated, were in progress for 4,899 square miles

Irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

Tank restoration scheme

and were not commenced in the balance of 2,700 square miles. Estimates for Government works were sanctioned to the extent of Rs. 3·11 lakhs or Rs. 0·11 lakh less than in the previous year. The total amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year was Rs. 164·80 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 3·14 lakhs, or Rs. 4·34 lakhs including percentage charges.

Navigation, embankment and drainage works

193. The outlay incurred on this class of works rose from Rs. 6·84 lakhs to Rs. 7·29 lakhs but the revenue fell from Rs. 0·78 lakh to Rs. 0·69 lakh. Negotiations with the Mysore Darbar having been concluded, the estimates for the Cauvery reservoir project were revised to meet the current schedule of rates and forwarded to the Government of India at the close of the year for the sanction of the Secretary of State. The Vengalapuram project in the Nellore district was under consideration. The Velgode project in the Kurnool district and the improvements to the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal were held in abeyance pending the investigation of the project for a reservoir on the Kistna at Sangamēswaram ; this was undertaken during the year. The estimate for improvements to the Girisola channel in the Ganjām district was under the consideration of Government. The estimates for the Coringa Island project revised by the Superintending Engineer were under the consideration of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. The Polavaram Island project was held in abeyance pending the passing of an irrigation law for the Presidency. An estimate amounting to Rs. 4·95 lakhs was sanctioned for replacing the existing 3 feet shutters of the Kistna anicut at Bezwada by shutters 6 feet high. The Pratur pumping scheme in the Guntūr district was abandoned. The Bellary West canal project for the irrigation of about 80,000 acres in the Bellary district was taken up for investigation about the close of the year. An estimate was prepared for improvement of the Basavannah channel in the Bellary district. An estimate amounting to Rs. 3·20 lakhs for the Tippayapalem project in the Kurnool district was sanctioned. The estimates for making the Nilambur river in the Malabar district navigable for conveyance of forest produce and for improvements to the Vadavar and the Veeranam tanks in the South Arcot district were still under consideration at the close of the year.

Investigation of projects

Miscellaneous

194. Damages were caused to several irrigation works throughout the Presidency during the year owing to rains and floods, noticeably in the Ganjām, Vizagapatam, Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara districts and in the Cauvery delta and the Srīvaikuntam anicut systems. Timely steps were taken to execute repairs necessary to safeguard irrigation.

Hydro-electric surveys

195. As the syndicate which had taken over the Periyār power concession did not fulfil the obligations imposed on them by the concession and licence, a notice of termination of the concession and licence was given to them. Some further concessions applied for by the Nilgiri Power Syndicate were under consideration and the programme of works called for from them was awaited. A concession for the development of power from the Pykara river in the Nilgiris was granted during the year and a licence was granted for the supply of energy in bulk within the district of Trichinopoly and the Nāmakkal taluk of the Salem district from power generated from the Kattuvadi Ar on the Kollimalais. The special division which had been engaged in gauging and in preliminary surveys of hydro-electric resources was disbanded but later in the year the policy of Government in regard to the development of the hydro-electric resources of the Presidency was reconsidered. The data and information already obtained were collected and collated, a comprehensive chart of the resources and possible grouped schemes of development was prepared and investigation was continued with a small staff working directly under the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. At the end of the year Mr. S. G. Forbes, B.SC., A.A.I.E.E., Chief Electrical Engineer to the Government of Mysore, was called in to advise Government, in consultation with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, on the possibilities of hydro-electric development. Mr. Forbes' report strongly recommended the adoption of an active policy in this direction

CHAPTER V

REVENUE AND FINANCE (1923-24)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Finance*]

REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

(*a*) GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

196. The following statements give the figures during each of the past two years of the Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works, Civil Works, etc., not charged to Revenue but excluding expenditure on such heads as Army and Posts and Telegraphs :— **Revenue and expenditure**

A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts.

Heads of account	Central.		Provincial.	
	1922 23.	1923-24.	1922-23.	1923 24.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Customs	3,10,38,380	3,14,54,900	...	...
II. Taxes on Income	1,32,21,484	1,60,10,027	...	10,61,272
III. Salt	1,51,75,975	2,13,62,996	...	...
IV. Opium	10,64,823	13,22,503	...	...
V. Land Revenue	...	...	7,20,84,310	7,14,27,726
VI. Excise	...	...	4,90,14,302	5,18,87,475
VII. Stamps—				
A. Non-Judicial	...	...	89,25,806	91,69,786
B. Judicial	...	...	1,30,57,752	1,42,35,509
VIII. Forest	...	...	52,72,956	54,15,557
IX. Registration	...	...	35,98,474	36,86,382
X. Tributes from Indian States	44,96,519	44,96,519	...	...
XI. State Railways—				
Gross receipts	12,42,08,793	12,69,23,907	...	...
Deduct—Working expenses	8,72,67,697	7,91,74,727	...	...
Net receipts	3,69,41,096	4,77,49,180	...	...
XII. Subsidized Companies	2,58,365	1,49,224	...	...
XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	(—) 27,29,983	(—) 26,40,996
XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which no capital accounts are kept	...	...	1,36,476	1,24,969
XVI. Interest	7,91,611	7,77,799	9,52,606	11,17,973
XVII. Administration of Justice	...	...	15,84,212	16,47,877
XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	7,77,542	6,46,256
XIX. Police	...	...	13,45,310	9,12,594
XX. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	112	15
XXI. Education	...	...	7,02,450	6,99,953
XXII. Medical	...	...	3,39,528	4,38,301
XXIII. Public Health	...	...	2,62,538	56,933
XXIV. Agriculture	3,664	3,125	3,45,906	3,80,526
XXV. Industries	...	...	14,40,245	11,61,978
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments	35,700	2,66,269	3,42,337	4,31,190
XXVII. Currency	12,172	22,166	...	...
XXX. Civil Works	14,322	12,493	7,56,189	6,61,829
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation	1,46,387	4,06,762	3,88,541	3,54,113
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing	184	2,116	2,20,561	2,16,540
XXXV. Miscellaneous	1,58,978	(—) 1,94,371	5,49,072	7,56,274
Total (*a*)	10,33,59,674	12,38,41,708	16,02,67,242	16,38,50,032
Contributions to the Central Government by Provincial Government	3,48,00,000	3,48,00,000	(—) 3,48,00,000	(—) 3,48,00,000
Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments	(—) 3,07,923	(—) 8,67,934	3,07,923	8,67,984
Total including (*a*)	13,78,51,751	15,77,73,724	12,57,75,165	12,99,18,016
Famine Insurance Fund	...	...	5,62,358	6,77,709
Loans and advances by Provincial Government	...	...	20,44,210	21,43,071
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	14,24,980	36,29,528	66,18,000	58,80,000
Grand Total	13,92,76,731	16,14,03,252	13,49,99,733	13,86,18,796

B.—Central and Provincial Funds—Charges

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.					
			1922-23.			1923-24.		
	1922-23.	1923-24.	India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.
EXPENDITURE CHARGED TO REVENUE.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Customs	12,05,055	12,02,881	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Taxes on Income	4,77,082	15,78,081	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Salt	26,12,595	23,06,361	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Opium	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Land Revenue	...	...	1,33,26,089	18,567	1,33,44,656	40,52,346	28,016	40,80,362
6. Excise	...	...	29,10,823	15,723	29,26,546	27,99,228	13,327	28,12,555
7. Stamps	...	...	6,01,464	...	6,01,464	5,79,681	1,21,788	7,01,469
8. Forest	...	...	47,89,463	39,089	48,28,552	46,33,826	59,648	46,93,474
9. Registration	...	...	21,92,478	...	21,92,478	22,63,774	...	22,63,774
10. State Railways	70,29,845	59,70,821	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Subsidized Companies	4,09,309	51,315	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	1,26,553	3,15,525	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Construction of Railways	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept.	...	...	38,33,260	...	38,33,260	38,91,940	...	38,91,940
15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	34,94,100	...	34,94,100	39,34,716	...	39,34,716
15. (1) Other Revenue expenditure financed from Famine Insurance grants	...	...	7,966	...	7,966	4,753	...	4,753
16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	22,593	...	22,593	6,646	...	6,646
19. Interest on ordinary debt	65,11,282	75,77,573	3,16,449	...	3,16,449	6,60,462	...	6,60,462
20. Interest on other obligations.	20,52,116	18,42,011	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. General administration	72,000	32,000	1,23,75,317	3,22,833	1,31,98,150	2,13,93,601	3,04,488	2,16,98,089
23. Audit	6,09,211	5,76,112	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Administration of Justice	...	...	95,00,399	92,945	95,93,344	92,75,202	1,33,854	94,09,056
25. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	39,33,373	10,809	39,44,182	30,64,086	40,361	31,04,447
26. Police	...	...	02,00,673	1,38,900	2,04,29,573	1,98,99,007	1,53,382	2,00,52,389
27. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	49,374	...	49,374	51,915	...	51,915
28. Ecclesiastical	4,31,944	4,63,925	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Political	1,44,798	1,63,212	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Scientific Departments	...	...	1,32,611	5,717	1,38,328	1,23,260	263	1,23,523
31. Education	...	...	1,53,44,943	99,089	1,54,44,032	1,63,25,230	1,21,233	1,64,46,463
32. Medical	...	...	54,70,761	1,65,622	56,36,383	54,37,067	2,34,477	56,71,544
33. Public Health	84,686	36,643	10,31,552	18,878	10,50,430	11,42,477	37,079	11,79,556
34. Agriculture	44,249	43,107	26,57,725	35,770	26,93,495	26,17,129	54,761	26,71,890
35. Industries	...	...	16,84,480	94,975	17,79,455	15,49,507	1,01,276	16,50,783
36. Aviation	4,361	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
37. Miscellaneous Departments.	78,823	47,537	9,99,008	4,042	10,03,050	13,05,058	75,269	13,80,327
38. Currency	2,61,601	2,93,754	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Civil Works	1,10,619	1,38,266	1,03,30,369	3,56,101	1,06,86,470	1,02,40,208	3,04,444	1,05,44,652
43. Famine Relief and Insurance.	...	...	6,47,320	...	6,47,320	6,47,465	...	6,47,465
44. Territorial and Political Pensions	2,80,585	2,88,233	...	...	...	...	...	...
45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	4,31,314	3,09,323	47,03,667	1,84,254	48,87,921	50,83,087	2,58,530	53,41,617
46. Stationery and Printing	1,25,634	85,409	19,05,236	4,24,445	23,29,681	22,55,022	3,16,022	25,71,044
47. Miscellaneous	46,755	10,460	9,59,371	38,225	9,97,596	8,63,038	32,769	8,95,807
Total expenditure charged to Revenue	2,31,50,417	2,38,32,599	12,40,10,864	20,65,984	12,60,76,848	12,40,99,731	23,90,987	12,64,90,718
CAPITAL OUTLAY ON RAILWAY AND IRRIGATION WORKS NOT CHARGED TO REVENUE.								
53. Construction of State Railways	* 1,93,02,963	* 1,69,88,761	...	...	...	...	...	...
55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	6,42,593	...	6,42,593	10,22,544	...	10,22,544
56. (c) Capital outlay on Industrial Development	...	...	...	...	...	32,669	...	32,669
60. Civil Works	...	...				1,92,409	...	1,92,409
60-A. Other Provincial works not charged to Revenue	...	...	5,77,509	...	5,77,509	2,00,000	...	2,00,000
Total Capital Outlay	1,93,02,963	1,69,88,761	12,20,102	...	12,20,102	14,47,622	...	14,47,622
Loans and Advances by Provincial Governments	...	...	54,22,414	...	54,22,414	59,71,815	...	59,71,815
Loans between Central and Provincial Governments	66,18,000	58,86,000	14,24,981	...	14,24,981	36,29,528	...	36,29,528
Grand Total (Disbursements)	4,90,71,385	4,67,01,360	13,20,78,361	20,65,984	13,41,44,345	13,51,48,696	23,90,987	13,75,39,683

Cash balance

197. The year opened with a cash balance of Rs. 135 lakhs in the Exchange Treasury and in the revenue treasuries other than those managed by branches of the Imperial Bank of India and closed with a balance of Rs. 98 lakhs.

(*b*) CENTRAL REVENUE AND FINANCE

General

198. The receipts on account of Central Revenue exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 2,04,82,034. The increase occurred chiefly

* Includes expenditure in England.

[These figures are subject to alteration when the Finance and Revenue accounts of the Government of India are finally made up by the Auditor-General.]

under Income-tax (Rs. 27·89 lakhs), Salt (Rs. 61·87 lakhs) and the earnings of State Railways (Rs. 108·08 lakhs). The Central expenditure charged to Revenue was more than that in 1922–23 by Rs. 6,72,782, large increases under Income-tax and interest on ordinary debt and smaller increases under Salt and other heads being partly set off by decreases under the heads of Railways, Superannuation allowances and Pensions, and interest on other obligations.

Customs

199. The increase in the revenue under Customs during the year as compared with the previous year was small and it was chiefly due to large refunds made during 1922–23 owing to the enhanced rate of duty which was provisionally levied on "Machinery and Cotton piece-goods" in March 1922 not having been finally passed by Government.

Opium

200. For information about the opium revenue see infra under Excise Administration.

Taxes on income

Income-tax and super-tax

201. The improvement in the receipts under this head during the year was solely due to the fact that special attention was devoted in the year to the work of collection, as a result of which the arrears were considerably reduced. Previously most of the important assessments used to be made in the closing months of the year with the result that large arrears were left outstanding. But in this year, as a result of the special measures taken, nearly 90·5 per cent of the year's demand was collected within the year as against 40·4 per cent of the demand in 1922–23. The arrears left at the close of the year were only Rs. 13 lakhs as against Rs. 85 lakhs in the previous year. The charges during the year included Rs. 10,45,949 paid to the Madras Government for income-tax work done by the Provincial staff in 1921–22 and 1922–23. Excluding this amount the increase during the year was due to the employment of the whole-time income-tax staff in the districts of Chingleput, Madura, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly in addition to the City of Madras where the special staff was employed in 1922–23.

Salt

202. The season for the manufacture of salt extends generally from January to June in the north and from January to October in the south. During the year there was a decrease in output in the factories of the Waltair and the Cocanada subdivisions due partly to untimely rains in the early months of the year and partly to the fact that some factories were not worked to their full capacity as they already held large stocks. The decrease was more than counterbalanced by the increase in the other subdivisions where weather conditions were more favourable. The total quantity of salt manufactured in the year was 13½ million maunds as against 12½ million maunds in the previous year. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year was 8½ million maunds and the quantity imported, mainly from Bombay, 1½ million maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption was therefore 23½ million maunds. The issues during the year decreased from nearly 15 million maunds in the previous year to 13 million maunds. The reason for this decrease was the enhancement of duty in March 1923 and its reduction again in March 1924. The issues during the previous year were high, particularly in February 1923, in the general expectation of an increase in the salt duty. The enhanced duty affected sales during the year to some extent and the demand for salt in February 1924 was far below normal as a reduction in duty was anticipated by the merchants. Stocks in the markets were not, however, in any way inadequate. The wholesale price of excise salt increased on the average from three annas six pies per maund in the previous year to three annas nine pies during the year. There was also a similar increase in the case of Government salt, the average price fetched being four annas nine pies against four annas six pies in the previous year. The retail prices at headquarter stations also showed an increase which was due to the enhanced rate of duty. The reduction in duty from the 1st March 1924 did not immediately result in a reduction in retail prices as the merchants continued to sell salt at the old rates till the stocks purchased by them before the reduction of duty were exhausted.

203. Of the total quantity of salt manufactured during the year, nearly 3 million maunds were Government salt and $10\frac{1}{2}$ million maunds were excise salt as against $2\frac{1}{5}$ million maunds and $10\frac{3}{16}$ million maunds, respectively, in the previous year. The quantity of salt imported by sea mainly from Bombay fell from 1,704,429 maunds to 1,419,853 maunds, while that imported by rail from Bombay and Goa rose from 251,692 maunds to 276,498 maunds. The issues of locally-manufactured and imported salt for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied fell from 13,617,562 maunds to 11,885,770 maunds. The quantity issued for export by sea to Ceylon was only 20,620 maunds as against 513,374 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of salt issued for fish-curing purposes rose from 230,825 maunds to 279,462 maunds. The quantities issued to the French Government and the Travancore Darbar were 63,844 and 418,008 maunds, respectively, as against 72,298 and 314,292 maunds in the previous year. The increase in revenue was mainly due to the enhancement in the excise duty on salt from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2-8-0 a maund with effect from 1st March 1923. The increase in charges was made up of Rs. 2,46,605 under "Salt purchase and freight" partly counterbalanced by a decrease of Rs. 52,839 under other heads. The increase under "Salt purchase and freight" was due to the purchase of a larger quantity of salt on Government account than in the previous year and to cyclone damages in some of the northern factories which had to be set right immediately and also to the adjustment of a portion of the cost of the railway sidings at Tuticorin.

Net receipts from State railways

204. The improvement of Rs. 108·08 lakhs in the net receipts from State railways was due to a reduction of Rs. 80·93 lakhs under working expenses and an increase of Rs. 27·15 lakhs in the gross receipts chiefly due to increased earnings from goods traffic.

Contributions and miscellaneous adjustments between Central and Provincial Governments

205. The net amount paid to the Central Government by the Provincial Government in 1923-24 was Rs. 3,39,32,016 made up of (*a*) Rs. 348·00 lakhs being the fixed contribution paid to the Central Government under rule 17 of the Devolution Rules, (*b*) Rs 3·40 lakhs transferred from Central to Provincial on account of the provincialization of the Lawrence Memorial School, and (*c*) Rs. 5·28 lakhs being the net result of an arrear income-tax assignment (5·66) from Central to Provincial for 1921-22 under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules and some other miscellaneous adjustments.

Capital outlay on State railways

206. The decrease in the capital outlay on State railways not charged to revenue was chiefly due to a decrease in the suspense balances partly counterbalanced by a larger expenditure on rolling-stock in the South Indian Railway and on structural works in the South Indian and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways.

Loans and advances by the Central Government

207. The opening balance under Loans and Advances by the Central Government on the 1st April 1923 was Rs. 1,80,51,249. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 6,44,379, the chief items being Rs. 2,19,909 by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2,37,721 by the Madras Port Trust, Rs. 1,36,147 by the Madras Coasts Lights Fund and Rs. 46,383 by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance of the year was Rs. 1,74,06,870. On the 31st March 1924, the sinking fund constituted for the loan of Rs. 14,30,000 taken by the Madras Corporation held Government securities of the face value of Rs. 17,64,500.

(*c*) Revenue and Finance other than Central

Provincial balance

208. The Provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 8,55,388 on the 1st April 1923 and closed with a balance of Rs. 19,34,501 on the 31st March 1924.

Provincial revenue

209. The receipts on account of Provincial revenues exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 35,82,790. This increase occurred chiefly under Income-tax, Excise, Stamps, Forest and Registration. Expenditure also increased by Rs. 4,13,870, larger increases under "Other revenue

expenditure financed from ordinary revenues," "Interest on ordinary debt," General Administration and Education being largely set off by considerable savings under Land Revenue, Forest, Administration of Justice and Jails.

Land revenue

210. The decrease in revenue was chiefly under "Ordinary revenue" and it was due to the effects of cyclone in Ganjām and the unfavourable seasonal conditions in the districts of Bellary, Anantapur, North Arcot, Trichinopoly and Salem. The large decrease in charges was due to the charges on account of village establishments which were debited to Land Revenue in previous years having been transferred to General Administration during the year.

Excise

211. For information about Excise revenue, see infra under Excise Administration.

Stamps

212. The increase was made up of Rs. 2·44 lakhs under non-judicial stamps and Rs. 11·78 lakhs under judicial stamps. The increase in the latter was generally due to increase in litigation and to the sale of stamps of high value on probates and also to the increase of court fees under Act V of 1922.

Income-tax

213. Under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules the provincial share of the income-tax receipts amounted to Rs. 10,61,272 in 1923–24, while it was nil in 1922–23.

Forests

214. The increase in revenue under Forests was chiefly due to the extraction and sale of a larger quantity of timber and to the exploitation of a larger quantity of sandalwood consequent on the ravages by spike. The decrease in expenditure was chiefly due to the payment in 1922 23 of the clothing and accoutrements supplied during 1921–22 and to the reduction of expenditure during the year on the feed and keep of elephants, roads, buildings and demarcation and also to the general expansion of early burning operations in substitution of the expensive methods of fire-protection.

Registration

215. There was a small growth of Rs. 87,908 during the year under Registration receipts which was due to the rise in registrations on account of unfavourable seasons, high prices of foodstuffs and cotton, the absence of plague in Coimbatore and the restoration of normal conditions in Malabar.

Canal revenue

216. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 2·85 lakhs, or Rs. 0·07 lakh more than in the previous year.

Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments

217. The increase of Rs. 5,60,061 was chiefly due to the adjustment to the credit of the Local Government by debit to the Central Government of Rs. 5,66,069 being the arrear income-tax assignment due to the former from the latter under Devolution Rule 15 in respect of the year 1921–22.

Provincial expenditure other than those mentioned above

218. The increase of Rs. 85·00 lakhs under General Administration was chiefly due to the transfer of debit to this head as explained above under Land Revenue. The increase of Rs. 10·02 lakhs under Education was chiefly due to the payment of a larger amount under "Grants to local bodies and other non-Government institutions." The decrease of Rs. 8·40 lakhs under Jails was due chiefly to economy in expenditure.

Famine relief and insurance

219. Under Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules the Provincial Government is required to make every year, with effect from 1921–22, a provision of Rs. 6·61 lakhs in the budget estimate for expenditure upon relief of, and insurance against, famine. The amount is to be expended only upon the relief of famine or the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine. Any portion of the amount which is not required for these purposes is utilized in building up a Famine Insurance Fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India which will pay interest on it and it will be available, when necessary, for expenditure on

any of the objects mentioned above and also for the grant of advances to cultivators. The opening balance at credit of the Fund on the 1st April 1923 was Rs. 5,62,358. In 1923-24 the expenditure on the objects mentioned above amounted to only Rs. 9,384 and the balance of the famine insurance grant transferred to the Famine Insurance Fund was Rs. 6,51,616. The amount of interest on the balances of the fund credited during the year was Rs 26,093. The closing balance at the end of the year thus amounted to Rs. 12,40,067.

Loans and advances by the Provincial Government

220. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 1,90,57,309 and closed with a balance of Rs. 2,28,86,053. Advances to cultivators amounted to Rs. 25,06,898 as against Rs. 25,80,429 in the previous year. A loan of Rs. 3,00,000 was received by the Sivaganga Estate to meet the expenditure connected with the maramat works of the estate. The Madras Corporation received loans of Rs. 5,00,000 and Rs. 2,00,000, respectively, for the Mambalam Town Planning Scheme and for water-supply and drainage works. A loan of Rs. 3,00,000 was granted to the Port Conservancy Board, Tuticorin. The loans granted to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, markets, hospitals, drainage works, etc., amounted to Rs. 12,38,405. Advances to the extent of Rs. 4,29,465 were granted to co-operative societies for the acquisition of house-sites for Adi-Drāvidas. The Kallar co-operative societies and the Salvation Army received loans to the extent of Rs. 1,24,284 and Rs. 25,883, respectively. Advances amounting to Rs. 3,46,274 were made to house-building co-operative societies.

Loans between Central and Provincial Governments

221. The advances obtained by the Provincial Government from the Government of India under rule 25 of the Devolution Rules to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure amounted to Rs. 58·80 lakhs carrying interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum. The amount repaid to the Government of India was Rs. 36,29,528, which is made up of Rs. 9,50,000 on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account, Rs. 7,79,528 in repayment of the outstanding balances of the advances taken in 1921-22 and 1922-23 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure and Rs. 19,00,000 adjusted towards the repayment of the outstanding advances in addition to the equated payment of Rs. 7,79,528 referred to above.

Local funds

222. The following table summarizes the transactions of funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to the general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial) :—

Name of the fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1923.	Receipts, 1923-24.	Charges, 1923-24.	Closing balance on 31st March 1924.	* Invested balance at credit of the fund.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Bhadrachalam-Nugur Special Fund ...	17,161	10,196	7,731	19,626	...
2. Irrigation Cess Fund	50,018	62,911	59,825	53,104	...
3. Port and Marine Funds—The Madras Port Fund	17,558	1,77,822	1,91,475	3,905	24,200
4. The Minor Ports Fund	4,37,074	6,90,868	7,37,511	3,90,431	10,73,360
5. The Cochin Port Fund	1,67,891	1,36,291	1,45,408	93,774	84,930
6. The Tuticorin Port Fund	...	20,032	13,856	6,176	...
7. Pilotage Funds (outports)	5,052	12,746	14,207	3,591	1,79,660
8. Landing and Shipping Dues Funds ...	7,86,272	19,40,337	23,57,668	3,68,941	8,91,320
9. The Madras Coasts Lights Fund ...	1,64,125	2,87,586	2,70,511	1,81,200	60,000
10. Cantonment Funds	3,05,488	6,65,106	7,01,738	2,68,856	14,000
11. Civil Hospital Fund, Secunderabad ...	18,853	1,54,702	1,17,458	56,097	...
12. Lightkeepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund	744	8,768	6,767	2,745	8,000
13. University Fee Fund	97,999	5,85,529	5,64,541	1,18,937	10,46,800
14. Kumbakonam College Hostel Fund ...	2,610	12,608	11,706	3,512	...
15. Mrs. A. V. Narasinga Rao's College Fund	13,008	55,210	59,956	8,262	1,00,100
16. Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund, Secunderabad	80,956	1,70,187	1,31,039	1,20,104	...
17. Local (Abkari) Fund, Secunderabad ...	2,25,873	10,54,769	10,11,160	2,69,482	...

* Includes Government promissory notes, Post office cash certificates, and fixed deposits in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras.

223. For information about Local Funds constituted under Act V of 1884, see supra Chapter III—Local Boards Administration.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES

224. See supra Chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal) and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

EXCISE ADMINISTRATION

(Report on the administration of the Abkāri Department for the year 1923-24)

General

225. During the year there was no interference by the non-co-operators with the administration of the Excise Department except for a short time in the Madura district when they picketed the liquor shops in Madura town with the object of preventing renters from bidding at the toddy sales. The picketing was carried on with great vigour and was, as usual, attended with violence, insult and intimidation. In the Coimbatore district, some of the adherents of the Kongu Vellala Sangam gave trouble in November 1923 when a party of Kavandars of Vellaikinar attacked the tappers and coolies employed on the transport of toddy, broke the toddy pots, burnt the residential sheds of the tappers in topes where trees had been marked, and cut down plantain trees in such topes to intimidate the owners of the trees. A few toddy shops also were burnt down.

Country spirits

226. With the exception of certain Agency tracts, the whole of the Presidency was under the contract distillery system. There were no changes in the areas of supply or rates of duty. The number of shops opened increased from 5,917 to 5,932, but licit consumption of country spirits fell from 1,575,439 proof gallons to 1,528,381, being 0·037 proof gallon per head of population. The decrease in consumption was due mainly to the unfavourable season and economic distress in some districts. The total revenue from country spirits rose from Rs. 210·91 lakhs to Rs. 216·32 lakhs, the increase being due to increased shop rentals. In the Agency tracts under the outstill and central distillery systems 110 shops were sold for Rs. 2·18 lakhs as against 109 shops for Rs. 2·00 lakhs in 1922-23.

Toddy

227. The tree-tax system was extended to another sixteen riverside villages of the Bhadrāchalam taluk during the year. The sweet-toddy rules introduced in the Pōlavaram and Yellavaram taluks in 1921 continued to work satisfactorily but the industry was still confined to the Gamallas and Idigas of Pōlavaram taluk. In the rest of the Agency it was not in a thriving state. From the 1st October 1923 the half-yearly rates of tree-tax were raised in the Malabar and South Kanara districts from Rs. 3-12-0 for a coconut palm and Rs. 7-8-0 for a sago palm to Rs. 4-8-0 and Rs. 9, respectively, and the yearly rates for a palmyra or a date palm from Rs. 2-8-0 to Rs. 3. Elsewhere there was no change in the rates of tree-tax. The number of shops sold fell from 10,610* in 1922-23 to 10,531 in 1923-24. The total revenue increased from Rs. 221·63 lakhs to Rs. 241·69 lakhs. There was an increase of Rs. 1·04 lakhs under the head of "Tree-tax" and of Rs. 19·02 lakhs under that of "Rentals." The number of trees tapped up to July 1924, expressed in terms of coconut trees, was 22·39 lakhs as compared with 23·10 lakhs in 1922-23. The licit consumption per head was roughly 2·57 gallons as against 2·64 gallons in the previous year.

Foreign liquor

228. The excise duty on coconut-toddy arrack was reduced from Rs. 21-14-0 to Rs. 17-8-0 per proof gallon, while the rates of duty on other locally-made foreign liquors, as well as on imported spirits, remained unaltered. The quantity of foreign liquor imported by sea increased by 45,878 gallons. The quantity of locally-manufactured foreign spirits issued during the year was 9,246 proof gallons as against 10,392 in 1922-23. The total issues of beer from the local breweries fell from 574,000 gallons to 562,000, exports from the Presidency amounting to 9,280 gallons, while

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* Revised figure.

89,059 gallons were imported from Bangalore. The issues of locally-made rectified spirits increased from 23,033 gallons to 24,805 gallons. The total revenue under foreign liquor rose from Rs. 12·14 lakhs to Rs. 13·26 lakhs.

Opium

229. The number of shops sold during the year was 608 as against 609 in the previous year. The issues of opium within the Presidency fell from 35,950 seers to 35,001 seers, the fall being mainly due to the enhancement of the issue price from Rs. 63 to Rs. 70 per seer during the year. The revenue credited to "Opium" and the gain on sale-proceeds credited to "Excise" amounted to Rs. 13·23 lakhs and Rs. 17·44 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 10·65 lakhs and Rs. 17·30 lakhs in the previous year. The amount of shop rentals and miscellaneous revenue credited to "Excise" was Rs. 10·35 lakhs as against Rs. 9·92 lakhs. The total opium revenue thus realized by the Excise Department increased from Rs. 37·87 lakhs to Rs. 41·02 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population was 1 anna and the average consumption per head of population was 0·066 tola.

Intoxicating drugs

230. The cultivation of the hemp plant carried on in 150 acres in the neighbourhood of Santavasal in the North Arcot district produced an out-turn of 793 maunds. Four hundred and twenty-four shops were sold as against 417 shops in the previous year, but the consumption of hemp drugs fell from 41,926 seers to 38,285 seers, i.e., from 0·079 tola per head of population to 0·072 tola. The total revenue derived from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 14·93 lakhs as against Rs. 14·76 lakhs in the previous year.

Cocaine

231. The number of cocaine licences issued during the year was 185 as against 167 in 1922–23, the total quantity consumed being about 35 ounces as against * 32 ounces in the previous year. The increase in the number of licences was partly due to the abolition of exemptions accorded to the vendors of certain preparations containing this drug.

Offences

232. The number of recorded offences against the abkāri laws fell from 16,050 to 15,918, but illicit distillation cases rose from 2,001 to 2,123. The offence was, as usual, most prevalent in the five northern districts, in the Ceded Districts and Kurnool, and in Salem, South Kanara and Malabar. 6,427 cases of the illicit manufacture of toddy were reported as against 6,623 cases in the previous year. Cases of the unlicensed possession, transport and sale of liquor increased from 5,387 to 5,413. Hemp drug offences fell from 452 cases to 404 cases and, of these, 118 cases related to unlicensed possession of hemp drugs, while there was a decrease in the number of cases of illicit cultivation of the hemp plant. Cases of smuggling showed an increase from 36 to 62 and occurred mainly in the circles bordering on the Indian States. One case of the unlicensed possession of a cocaine preparation was detected in Trichinopoly town. The quantity involved was only 54⅓ grains. The number of convictions under the Opium Act rose from 168 to 218, but the importance of the cases as measured by the amount of fines inflicted (Rs. 5,863 in 1923–24 as against Rs. 9,416 in 1922–23) was considerably less. Fourteen cases of the smuggling of opium were detected during the year, the most important of these being the seizure of 37½ seers of opium by the Negapatam Customs Chowky Officer on information given by the Excise Inspector for Railways. The demand for opium from Burma and Straits Settlements continued and 162 seers of opium were seized at Rangoon—152 seers from vessels arriving from the ports in this Presidency and 10 seers smuggled by postal parcels.

* Revised figure.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

233. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921 22.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1923)

[*The sixtieth annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for 1923; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1923-24; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics*]

Population

234. Excluding the majority of the Agency population, the inhabitants of the Laccadive Islands and those of the Banganapalle and the Pudukkottai States, the total population of the Presidency in 1923, estimated on the basis of previous intercensal increases, amounted to 43,022,648; estimated on the basis of natural increase, the figure was 43,863,813.

Registration of vital statistics

235. In spite of the efforts of the newly appointed district health staff the registration of vital statistics continued to be defective. A noteworthy feature was that registration was more unsatisfactory in several areas where it was compulsory than in areas to which compulsion had not been extended. The fact that 62,214 unregistered births were detected by the district health staff indicates the defective and inaccurate character of the work performed by registering officers. There was, however, appreciable improvement in the registration work in rural towns and this was largely responsible for the increase in the registered birth and death-rates. The total number of births registered during the year was 1,358,748 as against 1,231,722 in 1922. Calculated on the census of 1921, these figures yield a birth-rate of 33·1 per mille for 1923 as against the estimated Presidency average rate of 42·5. This rate exceeded the decennial average for the ten years ending 1922 by 2·9 per mille. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate in every district, but the birth-rates of Nellore and Chittoor districts showed a decrease of 8·8 and 1·2 per mille, respectively, as compared with the rates for 1922. The ratio of still-births to live-births in the districts was 18 to 1,000, the corresponding figures for 1922 and 1921 being 11 and 9 to 1,000. The average birth-rate registered in rural towns was 32·3 per mille, being 5 per mille in excess of the rate recorded in 1922. Sixty-two municipalities showed increased birth-rates as compared with the previous year and nineteen showed decreased birth-rates. Deaths registered in the various districts during the year totalled 908,825 as against 859,236 in 1922, representing a ratio of 22·2 per mille as compared with the decennial average of 25·0 per mille. All districts except six had a larger recorded death-rate than in 1922. The death-rate among Hindus was 22·2, among Muhammadans 21·8 and among Christians 20·4 per mille. The proportion of female to male deaths was 100 to 101·9, but in the age-periods between 15 and 39 the mortality rates were 11·1 per mille for females and 9·6 for males, the difference representing an excess of nearly 17,000 deaths among women during the child-bearing age. The infantile death-rate was 173·7 per mille of registered births as against 166·4 in 1922. There was an increase of 22 in the number of qualified midwives, but the number of labour cases attended by them,

Births

Deaths

although 8,341 more than the previous year, only amounted to 3 per cent of the whole. The number of deaths registered in the 215 rural towns of the Presidency was 46,713, yielding a death-rate of 21·7 per mille as compared with 19·1 in 1922, while the number of deaths registered in the 81 municipalities amounted to 89,694, the death-rate being 29·7 per mille as against 31·0 per mille in 1922. The average infantile mortality rate in the municipalities was 210·2 per mille as against 231·4 in 1922, the quinquennial average being 241·7.

Prevention of disease

236. Prior to 1922 preventive medicine in the Presidency was in an undeveloped state and it was customary to await the outbreak of an epidemic before resorting to intensive prevention. In 1922 a district health scheme was introduced into a few selected districts, and the experiment proved so successful that a district health staff was established in all districts, except the Nilgiris, on the 1st April 1923. Though the health staffs in most districts were therefore in existence for only nine months in the year, they were able to do much good, notably in the districts of Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Kistna and Madura. The achievements of the health staff during outbreaks of epidemics are described in the section dealing with the chief diseases of the Presidency.

Chief diseases

General

237. Excepting under "cholera" and "fevers" a general increase in the death-rate of the Presidency occurred under all heads. A greater part of the increase was in all probability due to the improvement in the registration of vital statistics, as the epidemic of smallpox was the only severe outbreak during the year, while the total mortality under "epidemic diseases" was less than in 1922.

Cholera

The number of deaths from cholera registered during the year under review was 5,169 as against 16,502 in 1922, the death-rate per mille being 0·1 as against 0·4 in 1922 and as against the quinquennial average rate of 1·4. This figure is the lowest on record but no district was entirely free. Investigation into the epidemiology of the disease in Cuddapah, the district worst affected, revealed the fact that the dry water courses with a flow of water underground were often carriers of infection to the villages along their course, as the dry beds were largely used as latrines and burial-grounds. Investigation in the Coimbatore district showed that cholera was a yearly occurrence along the Bhavāni river and that Mēttupālaiyam was the probable focus of infection. The great decline in cholera mortality in Ganjām district was attributable to the control of the pilgrim traffic from Puri by health and medical staffs and by volunteers.

Smallpox

Twenty-four thousand four hundred and thirty-four deaths were registered under "smallpox" as compared with 22,801 in the previous year. The rate per mille of the population was 0·6 as compared with 0·5 in 1922 and with 0·7 the quinquennial average. Investigations made by the district health staff into the accuracy of the registration of deaths under this head showed, however, that there were many omissions. In the district of Malabar the disease was as bad as in the outbreaks of 1918 and 1919, mortality being heaviest among the adults, but in the Presidency as a whole 70 per cent of

Plague

the victims of this disease were under ten years of age. Plague was more severe than in the previous year. The number of deaths registered was 12,110 as against 9,193 in 1922, the death-rate being level with the quinquennial average, viz., 0·3 per mille. Ninety-six per cent of the total mortality from this disease occurred in the following four districts, namely, Madura, Coimbatore, Salem and Bellary. These same districts were heavily infected in 1922. In December 1923 plague broke out for the first time in Tuticorin from infection imported from Madura. Preventive measures were carried out in all districts but it was found very difficult to convince the people of the value of inoculation.

Fevers

Fever was the cause assigned to 318,172 registered deaths, a decrease of 1,516 as compared with 1922. The death-rate per mille was the same as that of 1922, viz., 7·8, the quinquennial average being 11·2. As in previous years, Vizagapatam stood highest in the list. The high death-rate from fevers in the Agency tracts and Ganjām, though largely due to the prevalence of malaria, was partly accounted for by incorrect classification.

The number of deaths registered under the head of dysentery and diarrhœa was 60,323, an increase of 8,518 over the number registered in 1922. The death-rate was 1·5 per mille as against 1·3 per mille in 1922, the quinquennial average being 1·6 per mille. The incidence of mortality from these diseases was greatest in the month of December as in the case of cholera. Deaths registered under respiratory diseases numbered 55,951 as against 48,166 in 1922. The incidence of these diseases, 1·4 per mille, was in excess of the quinquennial average of 1·3 per mille. The Nilgiri district showed the largest increase. The epidemic of relapsing fever in the Tanjore district was completely stamped out by the end of March, but continued in Trichinopoly till the middle of the year. An intensive delousing campaign was carried out in these two districts and had the effect of checking the spread of the epidemic. The disease also appeared in nine other districts. The outbreak in Bellary was at once checked by prompt action on the part of the district health staff. The death-rate from maternal causes in municipal towns was 14·8 per thousand births, while the figures for the districts were unreliable. Deaths registered under "other causes" aggregated 420,018 (10·2 per mille) as compared with 380,286 (9·3 per mille) in 1922.

Dysentery and diarrhœa

Respiratory diseases

Relapsing fever

Miscellaneous

238. Eighty-seven births and 27 deaths of Europeans were registered under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, while 206 births and 135 deaths were registered under the City and District Municipalities Act.

Europeans and Anglo-Indians

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1923)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1923 (G.O No. 1890, Law (General), dated the 25th June 1924) ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Emigration*]

239. No indentured emigration took place during 1923 to the West Indies, British Guiana and Fiji, as the prohibition imposed in 1917 remained in force. The failure of the north-east monsoon in the chief recruiting districts resulted in a large increase of emigration to Ceylon and the Straits Settlements in the cold weather which is generally the slack season. The number of unskilled labourers and their dependants who emigrated to Ceylon and Malaya during the year was 80,461 : of these 31,304 proceeded to Malaya as against 59,169 in 1922. Sixteen per cent of the emigrants to Malaya had been to that country before, and the proportion of such emigrants among those going to Ceylon was probably higher. The proportion of the sexes was fairly well maintained, about 36 per cent of the emigrants to Ceylon being females and nearly 26 per cent of those going to Malaya. The health of the emigrants was, on the whole, good. Two thousand and thirty-seven emigrants returned from Natal.

Regulated

240. The only non-regulated emigration was that to Burma, for which no statistics were maintained.

Non-regulated

MEDICAL RELIEF (1923)

[*Annual Report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923 ; Annual Report of the Medical College, 1923-24 ; Annual Report of the King Institute, Guindy, for 1923-24 ; Report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for 1923-24 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Hospitals*]

241. In the course of the year eight dispensaries were closed and eighteen new dispensaries were opened, the total number of medical institutions at the close of the year being 768 as against 758 at the end of 1922. Of these institutions, 48 rendered medical aid exclusively to women and children, while 720 provided treatment for both sexes. The

Medical institutions

number of Government institutions open to all classes of the community (State-public increased to 57 as against 54 in the previous year, but there was no change in the number of those reserved for special sections of the public (State-special). Five additional local fund institutions were opened during the year. The number of private institutions receiving financial aid from Government remained the same, but there was an increase of two non-aided institutions.

Relief

242. The number of in-patients treated during the year in the hospitals and dispensaries of the Presidency, other than the State-special and the non-aided private institutions, was 133,910 as against 131,510 in the previous year. Of these, 19,979 patients were treated in the institutions for women and children. The number of out-patients treated in the institutions referred to above rose from 8,098,588 to 8,220,258. The number of beds available for the treatment of male patients was 4,479 ; 3,428 beds were available for female patients, being 47 more than in the previous year. Of the in-patients, the largest number were treated for injuries ; next in number were those suffering from diseases of the generative system, while those suffering from malaria formed the third largest class. There was a further increase in the number of in-patients treated for tuberculosis of the lung, the number rising from 2,244 in 1922 to 2,424 in 1923. Operations to the number of 366,661 were performed on 356,721 patients as compared with 337,127 on 327,660 patients in 1922. The number of major operations rose from 24,350 to 26,501, while the death-rate among the subjects of operations was only 2·4 per cent. A campaign against hookworm was carried on during the year. Of the persons examined for hookworm infection 79·70 per cent were found to harbour the parasites in greater or smaller numbers and 94 per cent of the persons examined for all intestinal parasites harboured some kind of intestinal parasite or other. The total number of treatments administered during the year was 93,469. On the educational side of the campaign 3,034 lectures with lantern slides were delivered in various vernaculars to audiences aggregating 274,000.

Finance

243. Government contributions during the year amounted to Rs. 29,11,709, while Local Fund and Municipal contributions rose from Rs. 23,47,634 to Rs. 25,98,639. There was a further decrease in public subscriptions, which fell from Rs. 1,31,845 in 1922 to Rs. 1,17,415, while total miscellaneous receipts amounted to Rs. 2,31,230. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 58,91,569 as against Rs. 55,46,473 in 1922. This increase occurred mainly under the heads of "medicines," "diet," "salaries of inferior servants" and "salaries of nurses," while there was a decrease in the expenditure under the heads of "buildings," "miscellaneous charges" and "salaries of medical officers."

Medical College, Madras

244. The total number of students on the rolls of the College rose during the year from 610 to 616, of whom 59 were women as against 58 in the previous year. The total percentage of passes at all examinations was 48·2 and at the final examination 46·2—almost the same as in the previous years. There was a marked decrease in the percentage of failures in Medicine and Surgery, while there was an increase in the percentage of failures in Midwifery. To conform with the regulations of the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, a course of instruction in Bio-Chemistry and Bio-Physics was introduced and a Professorship on Bio-Chemistry was instituted. The continuance of the Chemist and Druggist class was sanctioned as a permanent arrangement and the preliminary educational qualification for admission to this class was raised. Three hundred and seventy-eight new volumes were added to the library during the year. Instruction in physical training was given by a duly qualified instructor, and the students, as usual, took an active interest in athletics.

Medical College, Vizagapatam

245. In order to meet the increasing demand for higher medical education and to relieve the congestion at the Madras Medical College, a second Medical College was opened at Vizagapatam in July 1923. The College was located in the buildings originally constructed for a Medical

School and utilized till April 1923 as the headquarter hospital. The number of annual admissions to this College was fixed at thirty-two. The College began with the first year class for M.B., B.S. students and other classes will be added year after year and affiliated to the University. The percentage of passes was 58·6. As the College was in the first year of its existence, it had to work under some disadvantages, such as lack of accommodation, equipment and laboratory facilities, but in spite of these difficulties the College worked satisfactorily.

Medical schools

246. With a view to remedy a long-felt want, a separate Medical School for Women was opened by Her Excellency Lady Willingdon in July 1923. The annual admission to this school was fixed at twenty-five, and the rate of stipend to pupils at Rs. 20 each per mensem. Of the number required, only twenty candidates were found to be qualified for admission. The school was temporarily located at the Victoria Buildings, Egmore, and the dissection classes in Anatomy were held in a building on the Marina. The opening of the Medical School for Women raised the total of medical schools to six. Of the six medical schools, those at Madras (Rāyapuram), Tanjore and Vizagapatam provided a complete course in medical studies, that at Calicut (which has since been transferred to Coimbatore) a course for first and second year classes only and that at Madura a course for third and fourth year students. Passed second year pupils of the Calicut school and those of the passed second year pupils of Tanjore and Rāyapuram schools, whose native homes were in or nearer to Madura, were, as usual, transferred to the third year class at Madura. The total number of pupils in all the medical schools, including the Medical School for Women, was 1,262 as against 1,336 in the previous year. There was an increase in the percentage of passes at the final qualifying examinations during the year 1923–24 as compared with the previous year. The students continued to take a great interest in drill and gymnastics. Sanction was accorded for the construction of the fifth and sixth blocks of the hostel building in the Rāyapuram Medical School and the work was commenced. Progress was made with the construction of hostel buildings at Tanjore. The total expenditure in all the schools amounted to Rs. 3,82,447 and the receipts to Rs. 66,714 as against Rs. 3,56,108 and Rs. 54,069, respectively, in the previous year.

The King Institute of Preventive Medicine (1923-24)

247. The King Institute of Preventive Medicine, which is situated at Guindy, performed the following functions during the year. It was the vaccine lymph depot for the Presidency, the laboratory for the manufacture of bacterial vaccines, the laboratory where clinical bacteriological work was performed for the Presidency in general and for the hospitals in Madras City, the public health laboratory for the Presidency and a research laboratory for the investigation of problems connected with medicine and public health. Its activities as regards the first function are described in the section on Vaccination. From the Bacteriological section 62,521 doses of bacterial vaccines were issued, while 7,546 specimens were examined in the laboratory and 9,888 in the field. The Public Health section examined 1,346 specimens, including 1,104 specimens of water. Two investigation units were employed in investigating four outbreaks of epidemic disease. Training in bacteriological methods was given to several medical subordinates and other courses in medical subjects were held. An exhibit of twelve photographs illustrating the work of the institute was awarded a diploma de Grand Prix at the Pasteur Centenary Exhibition. There was an estimated profit of Rs. 1,63,676 on the year's work.

The Pasteur Institute, Coonoor (1923-24)

248. The number of patients who underwent a full course of treatment during the year was 1,354, a decrease of 2,021 from the previous year's number. The decrease was due to the extended issue of the anti-rabic vaccine to Government headquarter hospitals in the Presidency. No patient died during the course of treatment. Two died within fifteen days of completion of treatment and two after more than fifteen days from the date of its completion. The last, classed as failures, formed 0·14

per cent as against 0·44 per cent in the previous year. Thirty-nine persons for various reasons did not complete the full course of treatment and were, therefore, excluded from the above figures. Advice, but no treatment, was given to 160 persons. At the close of the year 22 patients remained under treatment as against 103 in the previous year. The virus was in its 891st passage on the 29th February 1924. The anti-rabic vaccine was issued to all Superintendents of Government headquarter hospitals and to the General Hospital, Madras. The total number of patients treated for rabies during the year at the Government headquarter hospitals and other institutions rose from 1,248 to 3,692. Of these, nine died less than fifteen days, and nine more than fifteen days, after the completion of treatment. The results of treatment at the headquarter institutions do not show any marked difference as compared with the results obtained in the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor. The net receipts, excluding refunds of advances and bacteriological fees, amounted to Rs. 73,689, and the net payments to Rs. 46,977. The increased receipts during the year were mainly due to the recoveries of the cost of anti-rabic vaccines supplied during the previous year. The new scheme of anti-rabic treatment at the headquarter hospitals has proved successful financially as well as from the medical point of view.

MENTAL HOSPITALS (1923)

[*G.O. No. 1122, Local Self-Government (Public Health) Department, dated the 5th August 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Lunatic Asylums*]

249. The three mental hospitals at Madras, Waltair and Calicut provided accommodation for 1,082 patients as against 1,058 in 1922, the increase being solely in Calicut. The number of admissions as well as the daily average strength were slightly lower than in the previous year. Seventy-two female lunatics were admitted as against 69 in 1922. Of a total of 1,296 in-patients, 172 were discharged as cured and 89 died. The total number of criminal lunatics under observation decreased from 206 to 204. The daily average sick was 125·47 as against 125·27 in the previous year. The largest number treated was for diseases of the nervous system, dysentery and digestive diseases, but Pulmonary Tuberculosis accounted for the largest number of deaths. Of the various callings, general labourers, cultivating tenants, shop-keepers, clerks and students provided the greatest number of inmates. The chief causes of insanity in the order of frequency were mental distress and strain, heredity, infective and toxic (such as opium, Cannabis indica, alcohol) physiological defects, and errors and mental instability, unhealthy environments, previous attacks, puberty and drug habit. As in past years the majority of the patients were aged between 20 and 40. The receipts from paying patients fell from Rs. 34,329-12-9 to Rs. 32,078-13-7. Regular inspections were made by both officials and non-officials. Various amusements were provided for the patients in the mental hospitals, and in the Waltair hospital a musician was employed throughout the year for the amusement of the inmates. The results of the treatment of mental patients continued to show a steady improvement, the percentage of cures having risen gradually from 14·42 in 1920 to 17·93 in 1923.

SANITATION 1923)

[*The thirty-fourth annual report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the sixtieth annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for the year 1923*]

Municipalities

250. No addition was made to the number of municipalities in the Presidency during 1923. There were four water-supply schemes under execution by the Public Works Department during the year, viz., Madura water-works improvement, Chingleput water-supply, Anantapur water-supply and Tuticorin water-supply. The Anantapur water-supply scheme was completed during the year, but owing to the financial position little progress was made in other major sanitary works. Twenty-nine municipalities enjoyed the advantages of a protected pipe supply. The population for which conservancy arrangements were made amounted to 3,028,859, and there was a general increase in the numbers of the conservancy staff employed. The number of public latrines of all descriptions was 1,917, the revised figure for 1922 being 1,876. Of the total number, only 1,267 were type-design latrines or well-constructed latrines of other types; the rest were mere insanitary enclosures. Public latrine accommodation was still far short of the requirements of the population in most municipalities. The total number of private latrines was 174,415 as against 172,280 in the previous year. The percentage of these which were conserved by municipal agencies, however, fell from 86·5 to 83·3 per cent, and only 39·6 per cent of the houses which were of a class that should possess private latrines were provided with them. The total allotment for sanitation made by the various municipalities amounted to Rs. 46 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 29 lakhs in round figures, as against Rs. 37 lakhs and Rs. 23 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The provision for sanitation amounted to 49 per cent of the income of these bodies and the expenditure for nine months of the year was 63 per cent of the allotment.

District Boards

251. Only one union town, viz., Rāmēswaram, possessed any form of a protected water-supply and in this town the scheme was only partially completed. There was a small increase in the number of villages in which conservancy arrangements were made, but such villages formed only about 2 per cent of the villages in the Presidency. The aggregate expenditure on sanitation for nine months of the year was Rs. 8,19,360 or 54·6 per cent of the allotment as against Rs. 9,85,213 or 65·2 per cent in 1922. Most of the districts spent more than 50 per cent of their allotment during this period.

VACCINATION (1923–24)

[*Annual report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923–24; Report on the working of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for the year 1923–24; Statistical Abstract for British India, Vital Statistics—Vaccination*]

General

252. The administration and control of vaccination in rural areas continued to be vested in taluk boards (except in the Nilgiris and the Agency tracts) and in municipalities, in urban areas. The district health staff was responsible for the supervision and inspection of this work. The Vaccination Code was revised and published as the Vaccination Section of the Public Health Code. Glycerine lymph was used in all local board and municipal areas. Routine vaccination work was suspended in the hot-weather months except in the Nilgiris, and the season was utilized by the health staff in detecting a large number of cases of the non-registration of unprotected children. The total number of vaccination operations increased from 1,761,624 in 1922–23 to 1,912,565. This increase was attributable to the better supervision exercised by the newly created district health staff, to the increase in the minimum prescribed for the vaccinators,

to propaganda work and to the widespread prevalence of smallpox. The average cost of each successful case rose from 7 annas 10 pies to 8 annas 9 pies. This was mainly due to the cost of the new health staff. When compared with the previous year, there was a marked increase of 113,632 in the number of children under one year of age who were successfully vaccinated. The number of vaccine operations performed in municipalities fell from 203,115 in 1922–23 to 185,967. The percentage of success obtained with glycerine lymph in local fund areas and the municipalities was 89·7 and 94·4, respectively, whilst that obtained in municipalities with lanoline lymph was 71·4. The total number of deaths from smallpox was 22,626 as against 26,526 in 1922–23. The King Institute, Guindy, supplied vaccine lymph sufficient for 2,184,590 cases. This issue was the largest on record and exceeded that of the previous year by over 104,000 cases, the chief increase being in the supply to district boards.

CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

253. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921 22.

EDUCATION (1923 24)

[*Report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923–24 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Education*]

General

254. In the beginning of April, Coorg and Bangalore were withdrawn from the administration of the Madras Educational Department. The posts of the Inspector of Schools, Coorg and Bangalore, and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Bangalore, are, however, still borne on the Madras cadres of the Indian Educational Service and Subordinate Educational Service, respectively. From the beginning of the year effect was given to the Provident Fund scheme for teachers in non-pensionable service which had been under consideration for some years past. In pursuance of the provisions of the Madras Elementary Education Act, six municipalities introduced compulsory elementary education in 1923-24, in addition to the seven municipalities that had introduced it in the previous year. Further effect was given to the policy of Government's withdrawal from the direct control of elementary schools by the transfer during the year of seven girls' schools to local bodies. With a view to the systematic expansion of elementary education in the numerous villages in this Presidency which have no schools, it was decided to carry out a detailed educational survey of non-municipal areas so that the actual requirements of each village might be accurately gauged. As a first step in this direction a survey of the Saidapet taluk was undertaken and completed during the year. Boarding grants similar to those awarded to European schools were distributed for the first time among 73 Indian orphanages (41 for boys and 32 for girls), the grants so distributed amounting to Rs. 15,000. The policy of giving vocational and prevocational instruction in schools was continued. A scheme for the training of drawing masters as instructors in vocational subjects such as woodwork, wood-carving, engraving, etc., was introduced in July 1923 and eleven instructors were so trained.

Statistics

255. The number of public institutions rose by 2,703 to 41,541 and their strength by 132,500 to 1,976,647, the increase representing 7 per cent and 7·2 per cent, respectively, as against 4·4 per cent and 5·8 per cent in the previous year. Private institutions also increased from 2,408 to 3,323. Taking public and private institutions together, there was an accession of 3,618 to their number and of 155,471 to their strength. The percentage of those under instruction to the whole population was 4·9 as against 4·5 in the previous year, the increase occurring mainly in the case of boys, being 7·9 this year as against 7·3 last year.

University and collegiate education

256. The Madras University Act of 1923 came into force during the year and the several controlling authorities of the University under the new Act, viz., the Senate, the Syndicate, the Academic Council and

the Council of Affiliated Colleges, came into existence in March 1924. There was no increase in the number of first-grade colleges, but the number of second-grade colleges rose from 20 to 22 by the opening of college classes in the St. Francis Xavier's High School, Palamcottah, and the affiliation of the Theosophical College, Madanapalle. The Noble College, Masulipatam, was granted affiliation in Group IV (Psychology, Ethics and Logic) of the B.A. course ; the Theosophical College, Madanapalle, in Group III (History, Logic and Languages) of the Intermediate course ; the St. Francis Xavier's College, Palamcottah, in Groups I (Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry) and III (History, Logic and Languages) of the Intermediate course ; the Hindu College, Tinnevelly, in Group V (History and Economics) of the B.A. course ; the St. Ann's College, Mangalore, in Group V-A (History and Economics) of the B.A. course ; the Holy Cross College, Trichinopoly, in Group III (History, Logic and Languages) of the Intermediate course ; and the American Mission College, Madura, in Group II-B (Physical Science) of the B.A. course. The recognition of the St. Christopher's Training College, Madras, in the L.T. degree courses was also granted during the year. The total number of students in arts colleges for men was 8,928 as against 8,631 in 1922–23. Out of these, 448 were undergoing honours courses, and 6, post-graduate courses. The number of students reading in the second-grade colleges was 2,269 as against 2,208 in the previous year. The University Training Corps was designated the Fifth Madras Battalion of the University Training Corps and organized in eight companies, six stationed in Madras and two in Trichinopoly. This expansion of the corps enabled all the colleges in Madras and three colleges in Trichinopoly to join it. The year under review was the first year in which the corps trained as a complete unit. The corps started during the year a journal of its own entitled "The University Training Corps Gazette."

Secondary education

257. The number of public secondary schools for Indian boys rose from 486 to 494 and their strength from 153,330 to 155,140. The number of girls reading in these schools was 2,317 as against 2,196 in the previous year. There was an increase of over a thousand in the number of candidates for the public examination under the S.S.L.C. scheme. The total expenditure on secondary schools for Indian boys increased by Rs. 1·10 lakhs from Rs. 62·70 lakhs to Rs. 63·80 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 27 per cent, fees 59 per cent and other sources 14 per cent. The average cost of educating each pupil was Rs. 43·01 and each pupil paid an average fee of Rs. 25·5. Forty-two pupils who belonged to the depressed classes were admitted to the S.S.L.C. public examination without payment of fees, of whom eight were declared eligible for entering upon a university course of studies.

Elementary education

258. The number of public elementary schools for Indian boys increased by 2,602 to 37,708 and their strength by 119,977 to 1,579,147. The percentage of male pupils to the male population rose from 6·1 to 6·6. The total number of teachers employed in public schools increased by 4,944 to 67,128 and the number of trained teachers by 3,091 to 30,393. The percentage of trained teachers to the total number of teachers employed also increased from 44 to 45. The number of buildings constructed during the year for the accommodation of public elementary schools for boys was 559, of which 113 were for schools under public management. The total expenditure on these schools rose from Rs. 98 lakhs to Rs. 104 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 75 per cent, fees 7 per cent and other sources 18 per cent. The average cost per pupil was Rs. 6–11–8 as against Rs. 6–13–4 in 1922–23.

Special education

259. The number of Government training schools for masters fell from 68 to 64, but their strength rose from 4,704 to 6,148. The number of aided training schools also fell from 20 to 19, but their strength rose from 1,521 to 1,568. There were, on 31st March 1924, 13,765 students receiving instruction of a technical character as compared with 8,367 last year. Of the former, 1,625 were pursuing art education, 1,998 technical education

in engineering subjects and telegraphy, 7,200 industrial education or agriculture and 2,942 commercial education.

Women's education

260. The number of schools solely intended for Indian girls rose from 2,919 to 3,050. The number of women under instruction in women's colleges rose from 367 to 390, but there was a decrease in the number of women reading in arts colleges for men from 62 to 57. During the year the Lady Willingdon Training College for Women, Madras, commenced working as a separate college and an aided training college, the St. Christopher's Training College for Women at Madras, was also opened. The number of public secondary schools rose from 59 to 61 and their strength was 12,454. As many as 14,268 girls, inclusive of 2,317 in boys' schools, were receiving secondary education during the year as against 13,389 in the previous year. The number of girls' elementary schools rose by 89 to 2,861 and their strength by 7,830 to 190,838. The number of training schools for mistresses, Government and aided, rose from 30 to 31. There was an increase of Rs. 2·38 lakhs in expenditure on secondary and elementary schools for girls.

European education

261. The total number of European institutions increased from 90 to 91, the increase being due to the starting of the Lovedale Training School for European Women, and the number of students reading in them was 10,203. Of the 724 teachers employed in these schools, 581 were certificated teachers. For the European High School examination 136 candidates appeared and 81 passed. In the Middle School examination 228 were examined and 118 passed. The total expenditure on European education fell from Rs. 25·88 lakhs to Rs. 25·59 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 40 per cent, fees 21 per cent and other sources 39 per cent.

Education of Muhammadans

262. The number of public institutions intended for Muhammadans increased by 55 to 2,393. There was also an increase in the number of private schools from 727 to 857. In arts colleges, there were 215 Muhammadan students including a woman student, as against 184 in 1922–23 and the number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose by 343 to 8,388. In the ten training and sessional schools for masters and the three training schools for mistresses, 386 men and 71 women students, respectively, were under training. The number of public institutions intended for Mappillas increased by 78 to 661. The expenditure on Muhammadan and Mappilla schools rose from Rs. 14·58 lakhs to Rs. 14·60 lakhs, towards which public funds contributed 78 per cent, fees 3 per cent and other sources 19 per cent.

Education of Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras and other backward classes

263. The number of public institutions for Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras rose by 530 to 8,575 and their strength by 16,285 to 238,796. The total number of Ādi-Drāvida and Adi-Āndhra scholars in public schools in the different stages of instruction rose from 161,499 to 179,548. The number of elementary schools intended for aboriginal and hill tribes in the Agency tracts rose by 45 to 256 and their strength by 951 to 7,826. The total number of pupils belonging to the aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Agency tracts was 7,109 (6,891 boys and 218 girls). In the Presidency as a whole, the total number of pupils belonging to these classes was 14,843 (13,610 boys and 1,233 girls). There were fourteen schools exclusively working for the benefit of these tribes in the Kurnool district and 54 schools in the Nilgiris. The schools for the deaf and dumb at Madras, Madura and Palamcottah and the schools for the blind at Palamcottah and Rentachintala continued to do good work. The school for the deaf and dumb at Guntūr was closed during the year.

Finance

264. The total expenditure on education rose during the year from Rs. 346 lakhs to Rs. 370 lakhs. This increase was mainly contributed by public funds. The proportion which public funds and private funds bore to the total expenditure was 56 and 44 per cent, respectively, as against 55 and 45 per cent, respectively, in the previous year. The total direct expenditure rose from Rs. 261·76 lakhs to Rs. 275·37 lakhs, towards which

increase public funds alone contributed nearly Rs. 9 lakhs. The amounts spent by local bodies on their own schools showed an increase of nearly Rs. 5 lakhs. Indirect expenditure also increased from Rs. 84·01 lakhs to Rs. 94·64 lakhs, the increase being mainly under buildings and furniture. Provincial subsidies to local bodies including the amounts placed at the disposal of District Educational Councils towards elementary education rose by over Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 81·63 lakhs.

CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

The Reformatory and Senior Certified School, Chingleput

265. The strength of the school was 228 as against 226 in the previous year. The number of admissions decreased from 76 to 45. There were 24 ordinary discharges and 23 special discharges; 4 pupils were transferred to other jails. Careful attention was paid to the sanitation of the premises and the surroundings, and apart from the periodical prevalence of malaria, the health of the school continued to be good. Anti-malarial measures were as usual carried out. There was a mild attack of influenza in the school in November last, when 70 boys were admitted into the hospital in the course of two days. Influenza vaccine was immediately obtained from the King Institute, Guindy, and the rest of the boys and the whole staff were inoculated. Owing to the prompt preventive measures taken, there were no further attacks and all cases of fever were discharged from the hospital cured. The number of in-patients in the hospital was 146 as against 83 last year. The monitorial system continued to work satisfactorily. Owing to stricter discipline the number of punishments increased from 55 to 127. The total earnings of the boys were Rs. 1,035 as against Rs. 1,116 in the previous year. The religious and moral tone of boys continued to receive special attention. Out of a total of 46 boys who were sent up for various Government technical examinations, 20 passed fully and 4 partly. One boy who passed the examination in modelling stood first in the Presidency. Foot-ball and hockey were played as usual. Sixty-one new books were added to the library. Deducting the income from the industrial departments in the school, the net expenditure was Rs. 50,637 as against Rs. 47,162 in 1922. The reports received in respect of 174 ex-pupils show that 94 or 54 per cent bore a good character. The Superintendentship was temporarily filled by an officer from the Jail Department.

Government Junior Certified School, Ranipet (1923-24)

266. The school started work as a Junior Certified School in the middle of April 1923. Twenty-nine boys were admitted into it during the year, all sent from the Madras City and all but two being first offenders. The sanitation of the premises and the surroundings received careful attention. The health of the boys was good throughout the year and the discipline very satisfactory. No boy was admitted as an in-patient in the local hospital. The monitorial system worked satisfactorily. Special attention was paid to the religious and moral tone of the boys. Though the majority of the boys admitted into the school were of diverse attainments in respect of general education, fair progress was made during the year. In addition to organized games in the evenings, football and cricket were played by the boys. They competed in the inter-school sports held at Ranipet under the auspices of the "Baby Week Committee" and won a large number of prizes. The net expenditure of the school was Rs. 14,070.

MISCELLANEOUS (1923-24)

Government examinations

267. Twelve examinations were held at 620 centres during the year and the number of candidates registered was 46,553, of whom 41,130 were examined. Examinations of all classes were held at several centres in the Presidency, and seven were also conducted at centres outside it. The examination for secondary school-leaving certificates was held in March, 317 institutions sending up pupils as against 289 last year. The total number of candidates registered was 15,442 as against 14,040 in the previous year; of these, 13,026 sat for the examination and 12,988 completed their certificates. Forty-two pupils belonging to the depressed classes were admitted to the examination without payment of fees. Thirteen candidates who failed in the Matriculation or Upper Secondary examination and were desirous of being admitted for secondary grade training registered their names for the special examination for teachers. Twelve appeared for the examination, one candidate being a woman. There were 46 entries for the women's secondary grade final examination and 45 sat for the examination. For the training school-leaving certificate examination 7,615 candidates were registered from 105 schools, and 7,138 appeared; of this number, 828 were for the secondary grade, 2,426 for the elementary higher and 3,884 for the elementary lower grades. Four thousand five hundred and ninety-one candidates passed the examination, the numbers in the three grades being 664, 1,597 and 2,330, respectively. For the public examination held at the end of the advanced course of studies in Sanskrit schools 159 candidates registered their names; 118 sat for the examination and 92 passed. For the test of Deputy Inspectors in the Educational Department, 134 candidates registered their names, 117 for Part I (Inspection Code, etc.) and 17 for Part II (Linguistic Test); 93 appeared for the examination and 66 were successful. Seven women candidates appeared for the examination in Part I and six passed. The scheme of technical examinations was revised in December 1923, but the examinations for 1923-24 were held on the lines of the old scheme. The total number of candidates registered for the three grades of examinations was 19,857, of whom 997 were for the advanced, 6,793 for the intermediate and 12,067 for the elementary grades. The total number of candidates examined was 18,048, of whom 8,253 were successful. The results were better than those of the previous year in the case of the advanced and elementary grades. Eight hundred and four women appeared for the examinations, and 450 passed. Three of the women candidates for the intermediate grade passed in cotton-weaving. Sixteen diplomas, which included one for electrical engineering, and 166 group certificates, of which eight were for mechanical drawing, were issued during the year. The special test examinations were held in June and December. One thousand one hundred and seventy-six candidates registered their names for the examinations held in June; 867 presented themselves for examination and 530 passed, the corresponding numbers for the examinations held in December being 1,414, 1,130 and 577, respectively. The results were satisfactory on the whole, the results at the examinations held in June being better in most of the tests than those of the examinations held in December. For the technical teachers' certificate examinations 137 candidates were registered; 110 examined and 77 declared to have passed. Five hundred and twenty-six candidates were registered for the European school and scholarship examinations, 205 for the high and 321 for the middle grades. Two hundred and two candidates appeared for the high and 311 for the middle grades; of these 124 and 163, respectively, were successful. The examination for teachers' certificates in physical training was ordered to be held in April instead of in December, and the usual examination was not therefore held during the year. A special examination was, however, conducted in December for the benefit of the teachers trained in the Young Men's Christian Association School of Physical Education, Royapetta, and five candidates appeared for

the examination, all of them being successful. There were 29 candidates from three schools for the examination for teachers' certificates in physical training for women. Twenty-five candidates were examined and nineteen were successful. The examination for the award of certificates of competency to instruct blind and deaf-mute children was not held during the year under report.

Finance

268. Receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,42,009 as against Rs. 2,59,716 last year. The expenditure rose from Rs. 2,15,874 to Rs. 2,20,291.

Lawrence Memorial School, Ootacamund

269. On the 31st March 1924 there were on the rolls of the school 308 boys and 174 girls, of whom 15 boys and 14 girls were day scholars. There were 275 children on the waiting list, of whom 241 were the children of British officers and soldiers who had served or were serving in India. Out of 10 boys and 4 girls who appeared for the European High School examination, 7 boys and 2 girls passed. For the Middle School examination 7 boys and 7 girls appeared, of whom 5 boys and all the girls passed. For the Cambridge School Certificate examination, 4 boys were examined, of whom 3 passed ; and in the Junior Cambridge Local, 5 boys passed out of the 7 presented. Satisfactory work was done in the telegraph class and in the classes in music, typewriting, drawing, cooking and dress-making. Games continued to be well organized and the boys took a keen interest in them. There were 27 boys and 8 members of the staff on the rolls of the detachment of cadets and of the Auxiliary force. A cadet company was formed with a strength of 135 and the girl guides had a very successful year. The school continued to maintain its efficiency and the Inspector of European Schools was favourably impressed with the work done. Among others the Most Reverend the Metropolitan of India visited the school in the year and recorded a high tribute to the work that is being done for the welfare of the children. Including the opening balance the total receipts during the financial year 1923–24 amounted to Rs. 3·33 lakhs and the total expenditure to Rs. 3·20 lakhs, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 0·13 lakh.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1923–24)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Press and Publications*]

Public libraries

Connemara Public Library

270. The number of visitors to the Connemara Public Library rose by 2,968 to 28,988 and the total number of volumes consulted was 39,881 as against 39,256 in the previous year. During the year 309 standard works comprising 350 volumes were added to the library. Of these, 232 (268 volumes) were purchased and the remaining 77 (82 volumes) were received as gifts or exchanges. The card index system adopted for standard works was continued and typed lists of current periodicals, Government publications and recent Parliamentary papers available in the library were prepared.

University Library

At the University Library the total number of readers was 15,083 as against 14,467 in 1922–23, the number of volumes consulted being 21,305 as against 21,491. The number of persons who took books on loan fell from 262 to 261 and the number of volumes taken out also decreased from 6,649 to 6,240.

Oriental Manuscripts Library

271. The number of manuscripts acquired for the Oriental Manuscripts Library during the year was 147 as against 307 in the previous year. Of these, 79 were acquired by transcription, 58 by purchase, 7 by presentation and 3 by restoration. As in the previous year, no tour was undertaken for the collection and acquisition of manuscripts owing to lack of funds. Most of the manuscripts acquired through the peripatetic party and available for sale having been purchased during the previous years, only a few manuscripts remained to be purchased. Some manuscripts, however, which were offered for sale to the library, had to be returned to the owners as they demanded a much higher price than was reasonable. As the temporary publication section was abolished, the permanent section

carried on the work of publication. Nearly three-fourths of the work *Brahmasiddi* was printed during the year. The popularity and usefulness of the library was well maintained. The number of visitors to the library was 3,947 as against 3,277 last year and the number of manuscripts consulted by them rose from 5,720 to 6,252. Some manuscripts were also issued on loan.

The Madras Record Office (1923-24)

272. Besides the annual accession of records by transfer from the Secretariat and other offices, about 1,200 volumes, manuscript and printed, of proceedings of the Madras Government were received from the Government of India. The publication of the Records of Fort St. George was continued, and during the year Public Diary and Consultation for 1702, and letters from Fort St. George, volumes for 1700-01, and 1702, were published while despatches from England, 1702—08, and despatches to England, 1702—20, were under publication. Volume IX (September 1754 to December 1755) of the Diary of Ananda Ranga Pillai was issued and Volume X was under preparation. The volume of the Baramahal Records on Police was also published. A good collection of manuscripts, maps, plans, seals, etc., from the Record Office was shown as exhibits in connexion with the exhibition held under the auspices of the Indian Historical Records Commission during its visit to Madras in January.

Periodicals (1923)

273. Three hundred and ten periodicals treating of public news were in existence at the end of 1923 as against 277 at the close of 1922. One hundred and five of these journals were started during the year, four journals already in existence began to deal with public matters for the first time and seventy-six newspapers ceased to exist. Of the 386 newspapers actually published during the year 113 or 29·27 per cent appeared in Madras City and 152 or 39·38 per cent in the mufassal, the remainder appearing outside British India. Eighty-eight or 22·8 of these newspapers were published in English, the remainder being either multilingual or in a vernacular. The chief English dailies were the *Hindu*, *Madras Mail*, *Daily Express*, *New India*, *Justice* and *Swarajya*. There was an increase in the circulation of the *Daily Express* and of *Swarajya*, and a fall in the circulation of *Justice* and *New India*. Among Tamil periodicals *Swadesamitran*, with both daily and tri-weekly editions, and the *Anandha Bodhini*, a monthly periodical with a circulation of 20,000, were the most important. Among Telugu journals the *Andhra Patrika* declined, while *Dinabandhu*, a paper for the depressed classes, *Mission News for Women* and the *Ryot Patrika* increased their circulation. Other leading vernacular journals were *Malayala Manorama* (Malayalam), *Vrittanta Patrika* (Kanarese), and *Sahifa* (Urdu). There was little change in the tone of the Press during the year. *Swarajya* with its constant adverse criticism of the Government attained to the fourth largest circulation in the Presidency. The number of publications declared forfeit under the Criminal Procedure Code rose from 125 in 1922 to 182. This was due to the increase in Bolshevik and Communistic literature broadcasted by post from Europe. Two newspapers, *Andhra Patrika* and *Satyagrahi*, were prosecuted under the sedition sections of the Indian Penal Code. The editor of the former submitted an apology and the case against him was withdrawn ; the proprietor and the editor of the latter were convicted and imprisoned.

Registration of books (1923-24)

274. A general increase in literary effort was noticeable during the year. The number of books registered rose from 3,025 to 3,587 and the number of periodicals from 735 to 817. The increase was noticeable in the case, both of publications in English and other European languages (from 900 to 1,103) and of vernacular publications (from 2,467 to 2,766). There was a fall in the output of Hindustani and Konkani books. The " Chin " language spoken by a hill tribe in Assam made its appearance during the year. As usual, books of a religious nature headed the list with a total of 1,534. Of the districts, Madras was far ahead of the rest with 1,916, Kistna again coming second with 383, while Kurnool occupied the last place with three publications.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

275. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1923–24)

Government Museum

276. The number of visitors rose by 54,132 to 739,864. Excluding the festival occasions of Kannupongal and Dwadasi which generally attract a large number of visitors, the average attendance was 227,732 as against 212,632 in the previous year. The Museum theatre continued to be very much in demand and was used on 31 occasions (excluding rehearsals). The Historical Records Commission held its sittings in the theatre in January. The Superintendent visited Kambakkam Hill, Chingleput district, the Dhoni forests in the Western Ghats and Horsleykonda in the Chittoor district and collected many specimens, particularly of botanical and zoological interest. Three sets of two demonstrations each were given by the Superintendent between November and January for the benefit of teachers in Madras ; 32 demonstrations were conducted during the year for the benefit of students, 1,845 of whom attended out of a total of 2,400 entered in the programme. The printing of transliterations and the translations of passages of various vernacular dialects recorded by gramophone showed considerable progress. The Museum was indebted to the Governments of the United Provinces and of the Central Provinces, the Curator, Central Museum, Lahore, and the Bombay branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for a total of 41 coins presented during the year. A good number of plants were added to the herbarium. Valuable additions were also made to the collection of copper images, coins and copper-plate grants relating to South India.

Meteorology (1923-24)

277. The chief work of the Madras Meteorological office was, as usual, the publication of the Madras Daily Weather Report and of the Presidency Rainfall Tables. The Madras Daily Weather Report was published for nine months in the year, viz., April to December. The compilation of the monthly and annual rainfall statistics of the Presidency was transferred to the Board of Revenue with effect from the 1st January 1924. Excluding meteorological observatories, there were 395 rain-registering stations in the Presidency at the beginning of the year. With effect from the 1st July 1923, the observatories at five stations were abolished and the registration of rainfall at those places was entrusted to members of the Revenue or the Medical Department. The total number of stations at the end of the year was thus 400, of which about 94 per cent were inspected. There were 103 rain-gauge stations in the Province of Coorg and in the Indian States of Travancore, Cochin and Pudukkōttai.

Astronomy (1923)

Kodaikanal Observatory

278. The Kodaikanal observatory is devoted mainly to solar research work but complete meteorological, magnetic and seismometric records are also maintained. At Kodaikanal, the record of solar activity was maintained as in former years. Spectroheliograms of the Sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 308 days, in hydrogen light on 277 days and of prominences on the limb on 270 days. Direct solar photographs on a scale of 8 inches to the diameter were obtained on 321 days. Compared with the year 1922 there was a decrease of about 50 per cent in the number of new sunspots observed. The appearance of a few high latitude spots after September indicated that the minimum period had passed and the new cycle had commenced. The approximate mean latitude of all the spots was 10°·4 in the northern hemisphere and 13°·2 in the southern. The prominence activity showed an increase of 35 per cent in the case of areas and 44 per cent in numbers compared with the previous year. The distribution of the prominences in latitude was practically similar to that of the year 1922. Studies of arc spectra were made during periods of

bad weather. Experimenters have previously observed that some arc lines become double or triple according to the amount of vapour present in the arc, and have suggested that this was an effect of the electric force due to atomic fields. This was chosen for further investigation as it promised to furnish evidence of the atomic fields operating in the Sun. A continuous registration of earthquakes was made with a Milne Seismograph and 121 earthquakes were recorded during the year. The magnetic observations were completely discontinued at the instance of the Survey of India, on whose behalf these observations had hitherto been undertaken. The only astronomical observations made at Madras are those for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India. The time gun at Fort St. George failed on 22 occasions out of 726, giving a percentage of success of 97·0. Most of the failures were due to faults in the firing apparatus and to contacts on the line outside the observatory. For five days the gun was not fired either at 12 noon or at 8 p.m. owing to the shortage of ammunition. The time ball at the harbour was dropped correctly on every day except two when it failed at both 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. The 7 p.m. radio-signals from Calcutta were not received regularly up to the beginning of May, by which time the wireless receiving set to observe the signals directly had been installed. After this month radio time signals failed on 37 occasions out of 245, giving a percentage of success of 85·0. The sixteen-hour roll of signals was sent to the Telegraph office every day as usual.

Madras Observatory

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1923–24)

Archæology

279. On the conservation of ancient monuments and the upkeep of roads and pathways connected with them, a sum of Rs. 26,275 was spent in the Madras Presidency. This expenditure comprised over one hundred different items, including the usual annual repairs and maintenance of watchmen. No exploration work was undertaken owing to want of funds. The heaviest expenditure was incurred at Udayagiri in the Nellore district, Chandragiri in the Chittoor district, Gingee Fort in the South Arcot district, and at Hampi Ruins and the Seven Pagodas. These groups of important monuments are now in a good state of repair and have been provided with good roads and pathways for the benefit of visitors. A sum of Rs. 186 was realized by the sale of photographs to the public. The first part of a Memoir on "Pallava Architecture" and a revised "List of Protected Monuments in the Madras Presidency" were submitted to the Director-General of Archæology for publication. The expenditure on establishment amounted to Rs. 22,208.

Epigraphy

280. During the year 404 villages were visited, 709 inscriptions copied, 9 copper-plate grants examined and 90 photographs taken. The survey of the Nandigāma taluk in the Kistna district and the Rāyadrug taluk of the Bellary district was made, village by village, and the balance of the work in the Conjeeveram taluk left over from last year was completed. Transcripts of all the 764 inscriptions included in the last year's report, covering 1,618 pages of manuscripts, were prepared for the press. Of special importance was the discovery of the remains of two Buddhist *stūpas*, one at Allūru and the other at Rāmireddipalle in the Nandigāma taluk and of a Brāhmī inscription in Prākrit of about the second century A.D. near the former, recording a number of gifts in land and money by a certain Mahātalavara accompanied by his wife, son and daughter-in-law to a school of the Pūrvasailīyas, a set of Buddhist Monks. The discovery of a copper-plate inscription of the Eastern Chālukya King Jayasimha II, (A.D. 696—709), whose inscriptions have not been discovered hitherto, was also important. A grant of Ammarāja I (A.D. 918—925) of the same family is of interest since it mentions as the king's subordinate and a donee of a village as a fief, a Rāshtrakūta chief named Indaparāja II "of the Mahāratta-vamsa" and "the lord of the city Mānyakhēta (i.e., Malkhed)." Two copper-plates of the Eastern Ganga kings, viz., Indravarman, son of Dānārnava, and Dēvēndravarman, son of Rājēndravarman, are also of some interest.

281. An inscription of the Chōla king Rājādhirāja II revealed the hitherto unknown fact that he was not a direct descendant of his predecessor Rājarāja II, but was set up on the throne after the king's death by his minister Pallavarāyar owing to the minority of Rājarāja's sons. The record also provided new information about the issue of the war of the Pāndya succession in the twelfth century, viz., that the king through Pallavarāyar assisted Kulasēkhara in getting back his territory from the Ceylonese, after killing their general Lankāpura-Dandanāyaka and nailing his head over the gates of Madura.

282. The inspection of the Nandigāma taluk brought to light the names of a few chiefs of the local dynasty of Chāgis who ruled over those parts in the thirteenth century with their capital at Gudimetla. A long inscription in Mahrāthi, of Sarfōji-Mahārāja, the last king of Tanjore, copied this year, gives interesting details of the Bhonsle family and its last vicissitudes. Besides these the material collected includes many records of the South Indian dynasties of kings containing new and valuable information about their reigns.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

283. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

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ECCLESIASTICAL 1923-24)

Church of England

284. On the 31st March 1924 there were in all 274 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras. Six chaplains were granted leave out of India during the year and owing to the resignation of a junior chaplain there was a vacancy on the establishment. In accordance with the scheme formulated by the Government of India in conjunction with the Most Reverend the Metropolitan on the general question of policy with regard to ecclesiastical expenditure in India, the number of chaplaincies in the diocese was reduced by three during the year. The Reverend Norman Henry Tubbs, M.A., D.D., was consecrated Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura at Holy Trinity Church, Palamcottah, on the 25th July 1923, by the Most Reverend the Metropolitan assisted by the Bishops of Madras, Colombo, and Dornakal. The Bishop of Madras subsequently issued a commission to Bishop Tubbs in similar terms to those issued to the late Bishops Morley and Williams, by which he was vested with episcopal jurisdiction in the bishopric of Tinnevelly and Madura, rendered vacant by the translation of Bishop Waller to Madras. The Most Reverend the Metropolitan of India and Ceylon made his metropolitical visitation of the diocese from the 27th July to 2nd August 1923, and visited Madras, Ootacamund, Bangalore and Secunderabad. During the year, four Indians and two Europeans were ordained deacons and one Indian and one European were ordained priests by the Bishop of Madras, while the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura ordained two deacons and six priests, all of whom were Indians. The Bishop of Dornakal ordained, under the commission from the Bishop of Madras, one European and eleven Indian deacons and three Indian priests. Twenty-three clergymen received licences to officiate during the year either as English ministers, missionaries or Indian pastors ; of these licences, three were issued by the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura and twelve by the Bishop of Dornakal. During the year under review, the Bishop visited Pasumalai, Madura, Ootacamund, Coonoor, Wellington, Kotagiri and Lovedale between April and July ; Palamcottah in July and January ; Bangalore in June, August and November and again in March ; Secunderabad, Bolarum and Trimulgherry in August ; Negapatam, Trichinopoly, Salem and Yercaud in October ; Calicut, Cannanore, Tellicherry and Mangalore in November ; Rajahmundry and Cocanada in January, and Mercara and Mysore in March. Alms and other offerings of the people made through the clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to Rs. 1,75,062-14-10½.

Voluntary contributions

Church of Scotland

285. At the close of the year the establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain on leave, the officiating Presidency Senior Chaplain in charge at Madras, one junior Chaplain in Bangalore and one Junior Chaplain in Secunderabad whose services had been placed at the disposal of the Army Department.

STATIONERY (1923-24)

General transactions

286. The value of stock with the Superintendent of Stationery at the beginning of the year 1923-24 was Rs. 6,41,032 (English stores Rs. 4,91,965 and Indian stores Rs. 1,49,067) as against Rs. 6,96,085 (English stores Rs. 4,69,460 and Indian stores Rs. 2,26,625) in 1922-23. The total value of

Receipts

stores received during the year amounted to Rs. 14,67,634 (English stores Rs. 11,11,905 and Indian stores Rs. 3,55,729) as against Rs. 12,15,707 (English stores Rs. 8,09,491 and Indian stores Rs. 4,06,216) in 1922-23. The total

Issues

value of issues during the year amounted to Rs. 12,86,797 (English stores Rs. 9,12,572 and Indian stores Rs. 3,74,225) as against Rs. 12,70,760 (English stores Rs. 7,86,986 and Indian stores Rs. 4,83,774) in 1922-23. The value of

Local Funds

stationery debited to Local Funds, etc., and of stationery issued on payment during the year 1923-24 amounted to Rs. 29,223 as against Rs. 33,296

Closing balance

in 1922-23. The value of the closing balance of stores for the year was Rs. 8,21,869 (English stores Rs. 6,91,298 and Indian stores Rs. 1,30,571) as compared with Rs. 6,41,032 (English stores Rs. 4,91,965 and Indian stores Rs. 1,49,067) in 1922-23.

GOVERNMENT PRESS (1923-24)

Finance

287. The net receipts of the year amounted to Rs. 1,68,551 as against Rs. 1,73,465 in 1922-23. The decrease was due to a decrease in the sale-proceeds of old plant and stores and to a fall in the number of subscribers for the Indian Law Reports. The expenditure rose to Rs. 7,65,428 from Rs. 6,57,318 in the previous year owing to the transfer of the High Court printing work and also to additional work, printed in connexion with electoral rolls, which entailed the payment of overtime wages.

Publications

288. Acts and books to the value of Rs. 1,07,819 were added to stock and the sales amounted to Rs. 94,463 as against Rs. 92,472 in the previous year; of this sum the sales effected by agents amounted to Rs. 10,612, or Rs. 769 more than last year. The value of repealed acts and obsolete publications was Rs. 10,011, while the value of free issues was Rs. 54,801 as against Rs. 72,854 in 1922-23. This decrease was due chiefly to the fact that less expensive publications were distributed. The total number of copies supplied free was 244,224 including 40,443 copies of proceedings placed on the "Editors' table."

Printing and binding

289. The outturn during the year in all the four presses consisted of 355,411 standard pages of composition as against 229,755 and 146,371,677 impressions as against 115,001,424 in 1922-23 showing an increase of 125,656 pages and 31,370,253 impressions. The cost per page and per 1,000 impressions fell from Rs. 1-13-9 to Rs. 1-5-4, and from Rs. 1-11-9 to Rs. 1-9-11, respectively, in the Central Press; from Rs. 1-10-11 to Rs. 1-6-10 and from Rs. 3-4-2 to Rs. 2-5-1 in the Mount Road Branch Press; from Rs. 6-7-3 to Rs. 4-13-6 and from Re. 0-7-5 to Re. 0-5-9 in the Penitentiary Branch Press, while there was an increase in these costs in the Ootacamund Branch Press due to a decrease in the number of Government Orders and notes printed during the season and to a reduction in the total number of pages of the *Nilgiri District Gazette* printed during the year. The total number of hours paid for authors' corrections during the year was 37,997 as against 40,240 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the absence of special book works. The total expenditure in binding amounted to Rs. 1,78,641 as against Rs. 1,67,902, the increase being due to the larger outturn in the registration volumes bound in full leather, book work in full cloth and standardized forms bound in quarter cloth.

Miscellaneous

290. The total outturn in the type-foundry during the year was 90,935 lb. as against 82,123 lb. in the previous year. During the year, plant to the value of Rs. 1,69,000 was added, representing new types manufactured for Legislative electoral rolls, etc., and machinery purchased from home for replacing old and unserviceable items, and the year closed

with a balance book value of Rs. 13,51,532. The opening book value of stores on the 1st April 1923 was Rs. 3,00,829. Additions during the year amounted to Rs. 7,49,846 and the issues to Rs. 7,91,546, leaving a balance at the end of the year amounting to Rs. 2,59,129. Printing bills on account of Government work executed at private presses, scrutinized and passed during the year, amounted to Rs. 13,373 as against Rs. 64,323 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the taking over of High Court printing formerly done by Messrs. Graves, Cookson & Co. The value of bills checked on account of Army departments and private bodies amounted to Rs. 36,339 as against Rs. 1,47,719 in the previous year. The total number of forms despatched during the year was 156 millions.

THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1923)

[*G.O. No. 693, Local Self-Government (Public Health), dated 3rd May 1924; Statistical Abstract for British India—Medico-legal investigations*]

Medico-legal investigations

291. The amount of work done during 1923 shows but a small variation from that done in 1922. There was a slight fall in the number of human poisoning cases and stain cases which were investigated. The number of animal poisoning cases, which had decreased steadily in the last few years, was marked by a further decrease from 42 in 1922 to 40 in 1923—the lowest figure recorded since 1888. Miscellaneous medico-legal cases showed a marked increase. The total number of analyses of all sorts performed was 3,973 as against 3,824 in 1922, the average per year for the previous 18 years being only 3,611.

Human poisoning

292. The number of human poisoning cases examined during the year was 204 as against 220 in 1922. Poison was detected in 92 cases—a percentage of 45·1 as compared with 49·1 in the previous year. The most common poisons detected were mercury, arsenic, opium and aconite.

Animal poisoning

293. The number of animal poisoning cases fell from 42 to 40. The percentage of detection was 42·5 per cent as against 43 per cent last year. Thevetin, the active principle of yellow oleander, was the most commonly found poison, but arsenic was a very close second. Mercury was detected in two cases.

Stains

294. Three hundred and eighty cases were investigated for blood or seminal stains or both. The number of articles examined this year was the highest on record—1,655 as against the previous record of 1,583 in 1922. One thousand and eighteen specimens of blood stains were sent to the Imperial Serologist, Calcutta.

General analyses

295. The number of general analyses rose from 570 in 1922 to 688 in 1923. Three hundred and forty-three of these analyses were performed for the Customs Department, 68 for the General Hospital, Madras, 64 for the Officer in charge, Medical Stores Depot, and smaller numbers for most of the other Government departments.

Miscellaneous

296. There were 35 miscellaneous cases involving 129 articles as against 27 cases and 170 articles in 1922. These included 9 unexploded bombs, sent for examination of the explosives they contained. All were made to explode on percussion.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1923–24)

General statistics

297. The number of charitable institutions in the Presidency rose from 3,249 to 3,418 and their aggregate income also increased from 19·12 lakhs, 20 muras of rice and 5 garces of paddy to 23·52 lakhs, 20 muras of rice and 5 garces of paddy. Two thousand two hundred and sixteen institutions were maintained entirely by public subscriptions and donations and by endowments of land and money, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 10·51 lakhs. Government supported 410 institutions at a cost of

Rs. 2·87 lakhs (as against 378 institutions and 3·42 lakhs last year) and 161 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 3·88 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 631 institutions costing Rs. 6·26 lakhs devolved wholly or in part on local bodies. Institutions intended for helping travellers numbered 2,201 (as against 2,207 last year). Of these, 1,259 were reserved for Hindus, 63 for Muhammadans, 2 for Christians and 877 were not restricted to any particular class or sect of people. Five hundred and thirty-six institutions, supported almost entirely by the general public, were maintained for the relief of Brahmans and 489 for the relief of paupers, while for orphans, lepers, the blind and the deaf there were only ten institutions. The total number of persons aided during the year at all charitable institutions was 12,569,456 or 2,009,455 less than in the previous year.

Triplicane Langarkhana

The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana, including an opening balance of Rs. 1,190-8-11, amounted to Rs. 5,855-8-11 as against Rs. 6,274-5-3 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 183 as against 179. The average cost of aiding each pauper per mensem was Rs. 2-3-9 as against Rs. 2-5-9 in the previous year.

Monegar Choultry

The average daily number of inmates in the Monegar Choultry was 96·36 as against 64·46 in the previous year and the average daily cost of diet per pauper was As. 3-10 as against As. 3-9 last year. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 11,595 as in the previous year and the total expenditure to Rs. 12,795 as against Rs. 10,809 in 1922-23. The balance to the credit of the choultry on the 31st March 1924 was Rs. 4,231 as against Rs. 5,431 last year.

The Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry

The average daily number of out-door paupers in the Raja of Venkatagiri's Choultry was 123·08 as against 106·83 in the previous year, the average daily cost per pauper being one anna and two pies as in the previous year. Rs. 4,027 were received during the year as compared with Rs. 4,171 in 1922-23 and the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 4,441 as against Rs. 3,053 last year. The balance to the credit of the Choultry on the 31st March 1924 was Rs. 2,086 as against Rs. 2,500 in the previous year.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT (1923-24)

298. The number of Government servants from each community employed in the service of Government on the 1st April 1924 is shown in the following table :-

Community.	Gazetted officers.	Non-Gazetted officers		Government servants on less than Rs. 35.
		On salaries of Rs. 100 per mensem and over.	On salaries from Rs. 35 to Rs. 100.	
Brahmans	573	2,578	11,224	1,974
Non-Brahmans	268	1,227	7,000	38,020
Indian Christians	116	337	1,216	2,249
Muhammadans	51	232	1,437	12,047
Europeans and Anglo-Indians	459	350	162	20
Depressed classes	..	2	46	1,259
Others	7	4	34	213

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